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A Journal of Literature, Science, and Art,

AND RECORD OF UNIVERSITY, ECCLESIASTICAL, EDUCATIONAL, SOCIAL, AND GENERAL INFORMATION.

No. 196 (2356).—VOL. VIII. NEW SERIES.]

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1862.

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LONDON: LONGMAN, GREEN, LONGMAN, AND ROBERTS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1862.

REVIEWS.

The History of Rome. By Theodor Mommsen. Translated, with the Author's sanction and additions, by the Rev. William P. Dickson, Classical Examiner in the University of St. Andrew's; with a preface by Dr. Leonhard Schmitz. Vols. I. and II. Bentley.

THE appearance of Dr. Mommsen's *History of Rome* in an English dress has long been looked for by those acquainted with its merits. It is, indeed, the first history of the Roman people worthy of the magnificence of the subject. The writers on Roman history have for a long time occupied themselves about the early period only, and there in demolishing the theories of others; but this is a constructive history, and the greater portion of it may be read with equal pleasure, both by the scholar and the layman. Dr. Mommsen presupposes in his reader an acquaintance with the common legendary and generally-received versions of early Roman history. His work, down to the burning of Rome by the Gauls, is rather of the nature of disquisitions on the early inhabitants of Italy, their origin and institutions. The commonly-received story of that primitive period he neither wholly accepts nor wholly rejects. It is impossible now to separate the false from the true in these accounts. That there is some truth in them many will always believe, from their universal acceptance, and their accordance, in some points, with known facts and circumstances. We are not at liberty to imagine that all the records of Rome perished in the Gallic conflagration, when we know that the Temple of Jupiter, in the Capitol, was a sort of state-paper office of early Rome. Niebuhr's scepticism, and his affectation of the historical gift of *parværia* to supply the deficiencies of history, have made, hitherto, a hopeless mass of confusion of this period of history. Dr. Mommsen reduces this confusion to something like order; and in this he has been assisted by the labours of scholars subsequent to Niebuhr. Niebuhr's theories, however, of the early Roman constitution are for the most part adopted by Dr. Mommsen, who has made use, in this History, not only of all that later researches have brought to light about Rome itself, but also of all that has been discovered of the other nations with whom they were in relation.

The present volumes contain the half only of Dr. Mommsen's History as it stands at present. Two other volumes, of still deeper interest, bring the subject down to the fall of the Republic. These first two volumes contain the history of Italy down to the conclusion of the third Macedonian war, which established the supremacy of the Romans over the whole of the civilized world; this, if not the most interesting portion of Roman history, is at least of most vital importance in a political and constitutional point of view, inasmuch as it must be by the study of this period that we can really investigate the distinctive characteristics of the Roman people, and the motives and circumstances which involved them in that career of conquest by which they ultimately became the Lords of the World.

The great obscurity which hangs over the early history of Rome is attributable chiefly to the fact that the earliest reliable records already exhibit its inhabitants in a very highly developed form of civilization. Whether we

consider their political organization, their laws, or their language and industrial arts, it is quite clear that all the rudimentary parts of civilization—the grammar of it, so to speak—had been mastered before we have an opportunity of studying them in authentic history. We have no such opportunity of seeing them in the primeval stages as we enjoy even in the case of the Greeks, and much more in that of Celtic, Germanic, and Slavonic nations. The predatory life, the bow and arrow, the war chariot, the incapacity of women to hold property, the acquiring of wives by purchase, the primitive form of burial, human sacrifices, blood revenge, the clan-constitution conflicting with the authority of the community, the natural symbolism of primitive law, all these phenomena have elsewhere been clearly discoverable in the initiatory state of civilization, but have almost wholly disappeared without leaving a trace in the history of Rome. The laws afford the most unmistakable evidence of the comparatively advanced state of the Roman community when history first lightens upon it. The right of self-redress, and the law of blood-revenge, which we find existing among the Scandinavian and Celtic races down to a very recent period, had entirely disappeared, and only faint traces of them may be found in legends. No tradition even brings into doubtful light a condition of society in which the idea of State was wanting, and in which its controlling power over private rights is not respected; and yet we know from analogy that such a period must have existed.

The recent discoveries of comparative philology have perhaps thrown as much light on the earliest condition of the Italian races as we are likely ever to have. The Etruscan tongue still continues, it is true, as dark an enigma as ever; but the latest and most critical investigators of early Italian races have discarded the theories which formerly gave the Etruscans so large a share in the initial civilization of Italy, and even of Greece. Etruscan art, so far from being the mother, is now considered the stunted daughter of the Grecian. The central portion of the Peninsula was inhabited, as far back as tradition will carry us, by two great branches of the same people—the Latins and the Umbro-Sannites—whose position in the Indo-Germanic family, to which they belong, is now determined with considerable precision. This Italian stock is linguistically, as well as geographically, the nearest neighbour of the Greek; as Dr. Mommsen says, "The Greek and the Italian are brothers; the Celt, the German, and the Slavonian are their cousins." There is sufficient left of the Umbro-Sannite dialects to enable us to judge of the close affinity they bore to the Latin. The ancient Italian tongue being independent as contrasted with the Greek, the various dialects within it have similar relations among themselves to that held by the Ionic to the Doric; and the differences again of these dialects, such as the Oscan and the Umbrian, were parallel to the difference of the Dorism of Sicily and the Dorism of Sparta. A due consideration of the Greek and Italian language and its dialects leads us with certainty to the conclusion that the Greeks and Italians were originally from a common stock, that the Italian branch of that stock split up into the Latin and the Umbro-Oscan people, which latter shoot again was divided into Umbrians and Oscans. Philology has further endeavoured, by examination of the common words in the several languages, to determine at what degree of culture the various races separated from the parent stem. A certain degree of

culture already existed in the common stock of the Indo-European races before their separation; and it is clear, from the words common to the Greek and Italian languages, that the original Greco-Italian stock was already advanced in the practice of agriculture, that gardens and vineyards were already cultivated, that the rudiments of the religious life had been laid down, that the simplest elements of art—the dancing in armour, the "leap" (*triumpus, θριαπός, διθριαπός*), the masquerade of the full people (*οὐρανοί, σατύροι*), performed by rustics in sheep and goatskins, the musical accompaniment of the pipe, were all in existence before the separation of the two peoples. The different developments to which these rude beginnings attained in Greek and Italian art is not less illustrative of the difference of character of the two peoples than the different conceptions of "the family" and "the state" which were formed in the two races out of the same primitive ideas. The unyielding severity of the Roman *patria potestas*, and merciless rigour of Roman slavery, form a direct contrast to the lighter and more pliant bonds of relationship which existed in Hellenic families, and obtained between master and slave, although both systems have their roots in the patriarchal usages of their common ancestry.

The records of the first foundations of Rome and of its early inhabitants have been sifted so often by criticism, that the more we read about them the less we seemed to know. What was wanting was the keen eye and the steady hand which should form the confused erudition of former writers—draw out whatever *débris* of facts really existed, and arrange them in the most probable manner. This Dr. Mommsen has in a certain measure accomplished.

Rome, Dr. Mommsen considers, was originally but an *emporium* of Latium. To understand fully the grounds on which Dr. Mommsen comes to this conclusion, recourse must be had to his volumes. We can only here call attention to the fact that the physical character of the locality of Rome was highly unfavourable for agricultural settlers, both as respects health and fertility. Neither the vine nor the fig succeed there; it is deficient in water; and before the drain of the *cloaca maxima* was built the space between the Capitol and the Palatine was covered with water, and the low-land constantly overflowed and converted into swamps. The legend of Romulus and Remus seems but to have been invented to account for the circumstance that a site so unfavourable should have claim for the foundation of a city.

On the other hand, the Tiber was the natural highway of Latium. Its mouth, on a coast scantily provided with harbours, became necessarily a favourite anchorage. And Rome was precisely in such a position, at such a distance from the coast, as in the days of piracy was considered both safe, commodious, and commanding. Rome, accordingly, was indebted to its commercial and strategical advantages of situation for its origin. A number of circumstances strengthen this view. Ostia, the sea harbour, was a burgess colony, a mere suburb of Rome. The civic and mercantile character of the Romans distinguished them peculiarly from the rest of the Latin people. A galley was in the city arms, and from the very first the exports and imports of Ostia were subject to a commercial tax.

The original seat of the Roman community was, as is well known, on the Palatine; there tradition placed the straw-covered hut of Romulus, and other legendary accessories. A second city was formed in the Quirinal, and both cities

were ultimately enclosed together with the Aventine and the Capitoline in the ring-wall of Servius Tullius, who thus created the Rome of history. Portions of this ring-wall, on the side of the Aventine near the river, have been discovered within these few years, and it is difficult not to connect these tremendous primitive fortifications with the same genius which remodelled the political and military institutions of Rome in the manner now known as the Servian Constitution. How this Latin community with a Sabine admixture, settled on the Roman Hills, succeeded in establishing its supremacy over the rest of the Latin cantons, must ever remain concealed in the obscurity of legend. All the Latin cantons appear originally to have enjoyed equal political sovereignty, and to have possessed each their little capitol (*capitolium, arx*), on some mountain-top, as a shelter for themselves and cattle in time of war, and for a place of assembly in peace. Alba was, however, the most venerable of all the cantons, and was at the head of the Latin league. By the conquest of Alba, Rome succeeded to her supremacy, and to that which was perhaps of more importance, the right to preside at the Latin festival on the Alban Mount (*Monte Cavo*), where the whole assembled Latin stock offered annually an ox to the Latin god (*Jupiter Latiaris*).

After the first obscure commencement of Roman history is got over, the subject has a twofold interest, which in point of grandeur and regular and consistent development from age to age, has never been surpassed, and perhaps never will be surpassed by any history in the world,—the movement within and the movement without, the conquest of political privilege by the plebeians, and the conquest of the world by Rome, commencing with the hegemony of Latium. Dr. Mommsen has thrown a clearer light than before on the Roman system of foreign politics: he has shown that they neither started with, nor at any time possessed a Machiavellian scheme for the conquest of the world; but that they arrived at universal empire much in the same way in which we have arrived at the empire of India, only with even less preconsciousness of what they were about. The wars they were involved in were not wars of their own seeking; once engaged in them, their admirable patriotism secured for themselves the victory. Each fresh conquest, however, brought them into fresh complications and difficulties with other States, which had to be settled with the sword.

Dr. Mommsen brings this view clearly out in his considerations at the end of the second Punic war. That great contest, which for seventeen years devastated the shores and islands of the Mediterranean, from the Hellespont to the Pillars of Hercules, has never been more vividly portrayed, nor more critically appreciated than in these volumes. The generalship of Hannibal, his inventive genius, his brilliant fertility of resources, and his consummate policy, deeply as they enlist the sympathies of the reader, only serve, in Dr. Mommsen's pages, to show how superior a nation the Roman was to the Carthaginian in all the great moral qualities which make a State. We give Dr. Mommsen's judgment on the results of this contest:—

"Before this war the policy of the Romans had no higher aim than to acquire command of the mainland of the Italian peninsula within its natural boundaries, and of the Italian islands and seas; and it is clearly proved by their treatment of Africa on the conclusion of peace that they terminated the war with the impression, not that they had laid the foundation of empire over the states of the Mediterranean or of universal sovereignty, as it is called,

but that they had rendered a dangerous rival innocuous and had given to Italy agreeable neighbours. It is true that the results of the war, the conquest of Spain in particular, little accorded with such an idea; but their very successes led them beyond their proper design, and it may in fact be affirmed that the Romans came into possession of Spain accidentally. The Romans achieved the sovereignty of Italy, because they strove for it; the hegemony (and the sovereignty which grew out of it) over the territories of the Mediterranean was to a certain extent thrown into the hands of the Romans by the force of circumstances, without intentional effort on their part to acquire it."

The same absence of any fixed plan of conquest is apparent also from the votes of the first *comitia* on the invasion of Attica, one of the Greek States in alliance with Rome by Philip of Macedon, in 200 B.C. The declaration of war was rejected at first almost unanimously, and it was only through the agitation of the more prominent Hellenic sympathizers that the citizens at length consented to involve themselves further in the affairs of Greece. And after the great battle of Cynoscephalæ had reduced Macedonia to a political nullity, the only use the Romans made of the victory was to declare all the States of Greece which had been under Philip to be entirely free. There can be little doubt of the sincerity of Flaminus, who obtained all the successes against Philip, and was commissioned to read the decree of the Roman people to the assembled Greeks at the Isthmian games. He was a man of distinguished Hellenic taste and culture, and full of that Hellenic sympathy which was more common then among the educated Romans than Italian sympathy is among the English and French of our own time. Medals were struck in Greece in his honour, and he had doubtless a somewhat sentimental desire to be considered by the Greeks and to pass down to posterity as the liberator of Greece. The freedom of Greece, however, as Dr. Mommsen observes, was impossible in the complete moral and political disorganization of the Hellenic nation; and it was only the magic charm of the Hellenic name which prevented the Romans from seeing that the virulent and impotent animosities which prevailed among the Hellenic communities rendered the withdrawal of the Roman troops from the soil of Greece an act of injudicious generosity. It was this political blunder which involved Rome in the war with Antiochus the Great, of Syria, when the Romans first set foot in Asia and entered on a new career of victory. Every new peace made by the Romans involved them in a fresh system of alliances, and with such alliances the risks of war were also, of course, very much increased. Up to the battle of Pydna, B.C. 168, the State maxim of the Senate had been that they should, if possible, hold no possessions and maintain no garrisons beyond the Italian seas, but should keep the numerous States dependent on them in order by means of their political supremacy. But after the last desperate efforts of Perseus and his Macedonian phalanx to shake off the Roman supremacy at Pydna, it was clear that this simple system of protectorate could be carried on no longer; it was a labour of Sisyphus, —always beginning and never accomplished, —and the Romans then commenced the policy of subjection and occupation. Polybius dates from the battle of Pydna the full establishment of the universal Empire of Rome.

"All the Hellenistic States had thus been completely subjected to the protectorate of Rome, and the whole empire of Alexander the Great had fallen to the Roman commonwealth just as if the city had inherited it from his heirs. From all sides kings and ambassadors flocked to Rome to congratulate

her; and they showed that fawning is never more abject than when kings are in the antechamber. King Massinissa, who only desisted from presenting himself in person on being expressly prohibited from doing so, ordered his son to declare that he regarded himself as merely the usufructuary, and the Romans as the true proprietors, of his kingdom, and that he would always be content with what they were willing to leave to him. There was at least truth in this. But Prusias, King of Bithynia, who had to atone for his neutrality, bore off the palm in this contest of flattery; he fell on his face when he was conducted into the Senate, and did homage to 'the delivering gods.' As he was so thoroughly contemptible, Polybius tells us, they gave him a courteous reply, and presented him with the fleet of Perseus."

Mithridates, of Pontus, made the only earnest attempt after this time to shake off the Roman dominion: and it was he who was, according to the report of Sallust, the original author of the opinion that all the wars of Rome originated in one and the same cause—the lust of wealth and dominion. Such a judgment was natural from this inveterate enemy of the Romans, but was as a matter of fact untrue.

Our limits preclude us from entering on the domestic politics of Rome, or attempting to criticize Dr. Mommsen's treatment of the struggles of the orders for political privilege. We can merely say that in this part of his History, although he has handled the subject with great ability, more clearness were desirable—the character and interest of these disputes not being so definitely brought out as those of the great contests of Rome with her foreign enemies. The subject, it is true, might not for the general reader be considered of equal fascination with the grand operations against Carthage or Macedonia; but it is one of the most instructive features of Roman history, and Dr. Mommsen has failed to invest this portion of his narrative with all the interest of which it is capable, by reason of that philosophic ambition, that affectation of calm and critical impartiality so indicative of the German mind.

His chapters on the social relations and the moral and industrial character of the Roman citizen as exhibited in faith and manners, and in the management of land and capital, place before us much more graphically the inward nature and outward bearing of these burghs-conquerors of the Old World:—

"Life, in the case of the Roman, was spent under conditions of austere restraint, and, the nobler he was, the less he was a free man. All-powerful custom restricted him to a narrow range of thought and action; and to have led a serious and strict or, to use the characteristic Latin expressions, a grave and severe life, was his glory. Neither more nor less was expected of a Roman than that he should keep his household in good order and unflinchingly bear his part of counsel and action in public affairs. But, while the individual had neither the wish nor the power to be aught else than a member of the community, the glory and the might of that community were felt by every individual citizen as a personal possession to be transmitted along with his name and his homestead to his posterity; and thus, as one generation after another was laid in the tomb and each in succession added its fresh contribution to the stock of ancient honours, the sense of collective dignity in the noble families of Rome swelled into that mighty pride of Roman citizenship, to which the earth has never perhaps witnessed a parallel, and the traces of which, as singular as they are grand, seem to us whenever we meet them to belong as it were to another world."

But at the conclusion of the third Macedonian war the antique Roman spirit was already undergoing great alteration: an Hellenic cosmopolitan spirit was supplanting the rigid and austere character of the primitive Roman, and

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no department of human action or thought remained unaffected by this struggle between the new fashion and the old. Of the extent to which this Philhellenism was pushed, no stronger example can be given than that the conqueror of King Antiochus did not call himself *Asiaticus*, but assumed the semi-Greek and anomalous surname of *Asiagenus*. Apulia, from the quantity of Greek coins, inscriptions, and urns found there, had clearly almost wholly adopted Greek habits and Greek art.

One great result of this intercourse with the Greeks was scepticism. All the early legends prove with what depth of piety the Romans were devoted to their national worship. The Greeks looked upon their earnest acts of piety with either amusement or admiration. During a battle with the Aetolians, the astonishment of the Greeks was excited by the fact of the Roman commander saying prayers and sacrificing like a priest; and Polybius draws the moral that such exhibitions are useful for the multitude. But as the simple faith of old times decayed in Rome, the artificial subtleties of theology and the multiplicity of ceremonial observances increased, a result observable in the progress of most religious creeds. The public service of the gods became more and more costly, so that in B.C. 196 there was added to the existing three colleges of Augurs, Pontifices, and keepers of oracles, a fourth consisting of the "banquet-masters" (*tres viri epulones*), whose sole business was to superintend the banquets of the gods. Religion became more and more costly to the individual and the public. The priests feasted largely by themselves as well as with the gods. Religious obligations and endowments accumulated upon inheritances, as obligations to say "masses" did on property in the Middle Ages, and still continue in Roman Catholic countries to this day. "Inheritances without sacrificial obligation" became so rare that they passed into a proverb. Tithes, penny collections for the Mother of the Gods, and fees to priests and soothsayers, became oppressive nuisances. The ministers of religion rendered no service without being paid for it, and their accounts were ranked by the Roman dramatist with those of the cook, the surgeon, and the nurse.

At the same time, from the increasing prolixity and rigidity of the ritual and ceremonial parts of religion, it was clear that the spirit had departed, and nothing but the letter remained. The catalogue of the duties and privileges of a priest of Jupiter might well, Dr. Mommsen says, have a place in the Talmud. The rule that no service can be acceptable to the gods, if performed with any deficiency in the ceremonial, was pushed to such absurdity, that a single sacrifice had sometimes to be repeated thirty times; it is well known what advantage the priests and politicians customarily made of this superstition in order to invalidate an election; and it is for this reason that the supreme priestly offices were the last to which the plebeians succeeded in procuring equal admission with the patricians. While national religion was thus on the decline, foreign impostures were introduced, such as the worship of the *Bona Dea* and the mysteries of Bacchus, which, by their sensuous symbolism, served still further to degrade the religious feeling and corrupt the morals of the community. The old austerity of life was fast disappearing in every relation; the ties of family life became fearfully relaxed; the emancipation of women from paternal and marital control was already beginning; and they began, as Cato said, to "rule the rulers of the world." Luxury and good living increased with prodigious rapidity; and, worst sign of all, at this

time was beginning to be instituted that system of games and holidays with which the Roman name is now always associated in thought, and which yet, nevertheless, were either of late or of foreign importation. The former simple Latin festival of four days in September, with simple horse and foot races, no longer sufficed; there was an increasing craving for spectacles. Greek athletes made their first appearance in B.C. 186; in the same year was introduced the baiting of wild beasts, the lions and panthers of Africa; human blood was first shed for sport in B.C. 164; and the gladiatorial games gradually from that time were organized of vaster proportions. All these demoralizing spectacles were at first viewed with censure by the authorities. The Consul of 486, Publius Sophus, divorced his wife for attending a spectacle; and Government obtained a decree from the people to suppress them; but it was the old story of *quid leges sine moribus*. The changed condition of agriculture was still further significant of the altered character of the community. Pliny says, *Latifundia perdiderent Romam*; but we may with more truth say that the large-farm system was both the effect of the degradation of national character and the cause of still further degradation. The soldier glance of Pyrrhus recognized the cause of the political and military ascendancy of the Romans in the sterling character of the Latin farmer; but the old, sturdy, honest, patient, and abstemious Latin yeoman was gradually being rooted from the land by the subtle influence of capital, the crushing effect of foreign competition, and the reckless proceedings of the ambitious. By the constant largesses of foreign corn the small free farmer was inevitably ruined, and with him the stern morality and frugality of early Rome made a last stay, and finally disappeared. The culture of corn was neglected, and that of wine and oil and the rearing of cattle took its place. Capitalist proprietors everywhere bought up the soil, and cultivated large farms on the slave system; and to this latter the slave system of the Southern States of America is tender-hearted indeed in comparison. "So many slaves, so many foes," said a Roman proverb; and their usage was in accordance with it. To this changed manner of cultivation, more than to the decimating effect of the Punic wars, must be attributed the falling off of the Italian population which now commenced. The slave population increased, the free population declined. The Roman aristocracy regarded with superb indifference this decay of small citizens and farmers. No more illustrative instance of the disregard of the noble world of Rome for inferior citizens can be found than an incident in the first Punic war:—A Roman lady of the high nobility, sister to an admiral who had lost a magnificent fleet, finding herself among a crowd in the Forum, cried aloud that it was high time to put her brother at the head of the fleet again, and lighten the pressure of the market-place by bleeding the citizens afresh.

It may be said that there is no important feature of the history of the Roman mind and nation which does not come with a fresh brilliancy from the treatment of Dr. Mommsen. His highly suggestive disquisitions on the growth of Roman literature and art we have no space to give any account of. There is a good deal in his style which is to be objected to; it is not plain, straightforward, and concise; he has a great command of expressive and energetic language, but he has the common fault of all German learned men—an affectation of *Gründlichkeit*, where there both is and can be none. He goes a long way round very often to go a very little distance; and he has often

whole sentences of metaphors about storms, thunderclouds, &c., which only encumber the narrative without advancing it. The translation seems to be carefully executed, and has the merit of being very readable. It seems to us that sometimes the translator must have missed hitting the exact English idioms corresponding to the German expressions; but as we have not the original by us, perhaps it is hardly fair to say so. In any case, these two volumes will form the most valuable addition to the library of the English scholar that it has received for a long period.

Papers for Thoughtful Girls. By Sarah Tytler. Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

"It is a half pagan and wholly untrue notion to associate all blessedness of existence with rash, heady, crude youth," says the authoress of the little book before us; and impressed with the conviction that youth, like any other period of life, has troubles, and troubles peculiar to itself, she proceeds to administer counsel and sympathy to those who are experiencing the advantages and disadvantages of this stage of existence. Miss Tytler had a difficult task before her: she had to avoid either prosing or dogmatizing; and in trying to be of use, she had the disheartening reflection that no one ever yet became wise at second-hand, and that all must learn for themselves, and at the price of more or less of suffering. It was therefore more in the way of fellowship and sympathy that she could hope to benefit the rising generation, and to encourage them by telling them that their doubts, their restlessness, and their disappointments have been felt, and are shared by others, and that if it is no new thing that has happened to themselves. The plan of Miss Tytler's book, half in essay, half in narrative, is original, and she deserves credit for it; for the ground she proposed to occupy has within the last twenty years been well trodden. Numberless authors and authoresses devote their leisure to the production of works intended to edify the young; and both essays and novelettes issue daily from the press, stamped with the peculiarities of different religious parties. Miss Tytler has avoided any extremes, and written a sensible book not dyed in either of the most fashionable schools of thought; her readers are not invited to sacrifice their own affections, along with the reasonable wishes of their parents, lovers, or friends, to an intense spirit of self-sacrifice, selfishly persevered in, for its own sake; neither are they enjoined to retire within a circle of narrow-minded observances, where they prescribe to others a creed as illiberal as their own, and abjure as worldly or dangerous those amusements and pursuits which are sent to occupy our hands and vary our thoughts. Our authoress advocates neither of these courses: she sets before us the falsehood and the cruelty of any one-sided religion, and brings the light of a simple, humble, wholesome piety to bear upon the vexed question of how to guide those individual leanings and dispositions which distinguish one character from another. "Be true to yourself" is her great maxim; and acting upon it she meets objections with candour, and touches frankly upon topics often tabooed in books and manuals for the young, and upon which girls are left to think for themselves.

We think her readers will open the chapters headed "Beauty," "Favour," "A Life of Sense and Heaviness," with curiosity, and lay the book down with pleasure, because they will

find no namby-pamby phrases, no truths disguised, on the principle that it would be safer to ignore them. She wisely thinks that to be useful one must speak the truth, and speak it bravely; that upon these topics, women, and young ones especially, will think; and that consciences nervously sensitive will ponder, what is the use of such gifts? how far is it lawful to enjoy them, or to trade upon them in one's way through the world? By "favour" Miss Tytler means the power of pleasing and being pleased; and the pretty story she uses to illustrate her meaning, and calls "Wandering Darling," is one of the best in the book; it is preceded by this passage:—"To act beneficially on our neighbours by our power of inspiring favour, we must keep under our own vanity: we must be earnest to maintain a pure heart and a single eye. But first and last, we must reverence our neighbour; we must not think of ourselves more highly than we ought to think; we must bear long with her, think well of her, be pitiful to her, and never to our dying day presume to judge or condemn her."

Miss Tytler handles the question of intellect not less well. She gives it its due as a gift; but taking as her text Charles Kingsley's exquisite lines:—

"Be good, sweet maid,
And let who will be clever,"

she urges her readers to "do noble things, not dream them all day long;" to use intellect as a means, not as an aim; and implores them to cultivate it most as a blessed safeguard against *ennui*, disappointment, and restlessness. She combats the idea that a gifted woman must of necessity be a disagreeable one. Genius, if it means anything, surely means sympathy; and the greater her sympathy, the more a woman so endowed can hope to escape from the isolation that would otherwise be her lot. The two stories in this book, "What will become of Pen?" and "A Dream of Honour," both point at this danger, and at the results that may be obtained if any one has courage enough to work on in her own line; we too often hide, deny, or neglect in youth the strong bias of our own mind; and find, when the period of adolescence is nearly over, that *this* was the very thing intended by the Author of our being to console and occupy us, and to open for us a way to active usefulness. We think Miss Tytler might have made more of this point; too much cannot be said for employment, both as a habit in youth, and as a resource afterwards, when we shall have fully discovered that for both content and godliness there is no recipe so sure as work. Any of her readers familiar with Schiller's *Ideale*, will remember his description of it as the constant ally, willing to wend with us "down to the narrow house," good and approved, after the flight of all the ideals. The authoress takes it for granted that all may, if they will, find this occupation; she has evidently done so herself, both from the clever little book she has produced, and from the healthy tone which runs through her pages: though less witty, she reminds us occasionally of Otilie Wildermuth, whose Swabian pictures of girlish life are the most exquisite in any language. Both writers have a happy absence of moral valetudinarianism, if we may use the word; for we conceive that people may be over-anxious for their spiritual growth and welfare, and so defeat their own aim; such morbid self-inspection being as unlike sound and simple godliness, as the dietary whims of a dyspeptic are unlike an ordinary appetite, or as prudery is removed from the loveliness and dignity of modesty. Not only is this a selfish spirit, but Miss Tytler shows it to be a dangerous one. "We are fearfully and won-

derfully made," she says in the last lines of the story she has written on a "Life of Self-Sacrifice," which is, by the way, the least commendable of her tales; "we cannot constitute ourselves anew, however highly expedient and devoutly to be wished such a process may appear to us." "Shun bigotry as you would shun sin," she says in another place; and again, "The duties of your womanliness; the plain, simple, tender duties of affection, benevolence, and godliness, are infinitely above all book-craft, and lie in the reach of all."

These extracts will serve to give some idea of the spirit of these papers; and we have already named what seemed to us the most pleasing of the stories appended to the essays. They are not always on original subjects; as in the first, of which Grizel Hume is the heroine; and sometimes, as in the one called "Miss Viol," they suggest the idea of being drawn from the life. The style is unaffected, though not as careful as it might be; for instance, we are sorry that Miss Tytler, or the "thoughtful girls," should write such a sentence as this: "Do not fear then, young girls, to leave behind you the *gaily-jested-over* or *mincingly-mentioned* epoch of your teens." But these flaws do not spoil the book; and Miss Tytler is as sure to find readers as she is to make many unknown friends.

her localities, the spots which have been more especially celebrated as the scenes of their struggles.

We confess that we do not dislike the design, and we think the fair authoress has carried it out in a manner deserving of approval. She has given us historical sketches of interesting localities in or around London, combined with notices of the celebrated characters who at different periods lived upon them, and who by their efforts for great patriotic purposes have given a spiritual interest to picturesque nooks or to the old buildings, of which, in London, there are of course more of the latter than of the former. Smithfield brings to our memories those holy and patient martyrs who sprinkled with their blood the first efforts for the establishment of religious freedom, and to whom in no small degree we owe the Reformation, as far as it belongs to England; while the Tower enclosed in its time many a martyr in the struggle for the civil liberties of the English people. The Fleet Prison was at one time a usual place of confinement of the Nonconformists; in Southwark the Pilgrim Fathers first met; the neighbourhood of Gracechurch Street was the early head-quarters of the Quakers; one district was celebrated in its connection with the Independents, and another derives its fame from reminiscences of the Presbyterians. Thus the struggles of all these religious sects are brought within the scope of Miss Meteyard's design, and their several histories find a place in her book. Other localities are similarly connected with striking periods in the progress of national development, whether in philosophy, in the administration of the laws, or in regulation of government. In this manner, through a series of really interesting and instructive chapters, each locality brings us into communion with some of the worthies of the past, whose names are identified with the progress, inasmuch as they all served in their turn as the watchwords for its advance. Thus, with Smithfield, we have the names of Wycliffe (not as a martyr, but as the great proto-reformer), of William Sautre (the first Smithfield martyr), of the fair and accomplished Anne Askew, and of other sufferers; with the Tower, of Bishop Fisher, Sir Thomas More, the Lord Thomas Cromwell, Essex (Elizabeth's favourite), and Sir John Elyot (the staunch opponent of arbitrary power); with York House and Gray's Inn, of Bacon; with the Fleet Prison, of such men as Leighton and Prynne, and other firm opponents of the ecclesiastical tyranny of Laud; with the Temple and Lincoln's Inn, of Selden and Hale; with Westminster and Whitehall, of some of the actors in the great contest between Court and Parliament; with Bread Street, of Milton; with Bunhill Fields, of Bunyan and Dr. Thomas Goodwin, one of the great champions of Independence; with the Quakers in Gracechurch Street, of George Fox; with Hampstead, of Harry Vane; with Stoke Newington and Cornhill, of De Foe. These names, which are all the subjects of agreeably written biographical sketches, while a host of others are introduced more briefly, will at once show the character and tone of Miss Meteyard's account of the *Hallowed Spots of Ancient London*. We must state, however, that the personal sketches are largely intermingled with accounts, both historical and descriptive, of the spots themselves, and that the whole forms a very pleasant miscellany of valuable and often new information.

Let not our readers suppose, moreover, that because this book bears the name of a lady on its title it is a mere slight compilation from

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ordinary materials. Miss Meteyard has evidently dived into rare and difficult sources; her researches have been carried on not only among the treasures of the British Museum, but even into the Record Offices, as well as into still more obscure places; and she has evidently visited, with careful observation, all the localities she has described. As far as its learning goes, the book is indeed extremely creditable to its authoress, and far exceeds anything we usually expect from one of her sex; while the results are given in an attractive form, written in an agreeable style, illustrated with very superior engravings on wood, and most tastefully bound. It is a work which cannot fail to improve the minds of a numerous class of readers, who would hardly have found the information it contains where it has hitherto been laid up, in many cases much less perfectly, in a number of heavy volumes, which present no similar attractions either in appearance or in style. We may state, in conclusion, that Miss Meteyard has dedicated her book to Mr. Roach Smith, the first of London antiquaries.

Health: Five Lay Sermons to Working People.
By John Brown, M.D. Edinburgh, Alexander Strahan and Co.; London, Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

SERMONS, as a general rule, are not popular—we mean in print. It is true that men and women (especially the latter) will throng in multitudes to church or tabernacle, and listen agape for an hour and a half to the extempore outpourings of eloquence or eccentricity; but the instances in which we have seen a volume of sermons selected from a library by one desirous of an hour's reading are extraordinarily few. An apprehension seems to prevail that they are likely to be found dry; nor, we are bound to admit, is the apprehension in all cases wholly unfounded. Still, whatever may be the case with clerical sermons, dryness is not the chief characteristic of five lay sermons by John Brown, a doctor, not of divinity, but of medicine, by profession a healer of bodies, by desire a healer of souls; we have read them with positive pleasure, which is saying a very great deal, for we do not remember to have often hitherto experienced the same feeling upon a similar occasion. From the author of *Rab and his Friends*, which all who have read have greatly the advantage of all who have not, one expects sense, simplicity, humour, and tenderness; and in his five sermons entitled *Health* the reader, to his great content, will find them; for, notwithstanding the proverbial blessedness of the man who expects nothing, we rate even higher the blessedness of that man who finds an expectation realized. The sermons were written for working people, not for gentlefolks, and the writer uses the plainest language; he does not call a spade a horticultural implement, as may be discovered by a glance at page 50, where he discourses of the chastisement of children. It will be seen that he does not hesitate to apply to that part of an animate being which was considered by Dr. Busby peculiarly adapted for the visitation of the birch, the term which fastidious persons use only in speaking of the lowest part of inanimate objects. The medical Ecclesiastes cries aloud and spares not; and the burthen of his cry is, that men in these electric days live *too fast*—dissipate immorally by *over-work* the health and strength wherewithal it has pleased God to endow them. We are aware that this talking will be put down as rank heresy in some quarters, where it is forgotten

that "man goeth forth to his work and to his labour *until the evening*," and where it is held that he whose lot in life is toil must know no rest till he rest in the grave. The Preacher-Doctor will, moreover, shock the Malthusians; the unsophisticated manner in which he speaks of marrying young, living to seventy and having ten children and five-and-twenty grandchildren, as of a method by which a man may do good service to the State, would have given the late Mr. Malthus quite a turn. The Doctor really seems to think that woman is still intended to be a help meet for man, and that the injunction laid upon our first parents to "increase and multiply" has not been obeyed *usque ad nauseam*: he seems to harbour some notion that even working people have a right to some of the blessings of this world, that even working men may beget sons and daughters, and even working women be "joyful mothers of children," and not to have heard of the new text, "Blessed are the millionaires, for they shall inherit the earth." On the whole, in fact, the Doctor seems to think that the working people are rather more deserving than the gentlemen and ladies. They "are more natural and less selfish than the fine folks." But it must be acknowledged that one may be a great deal too natural; nobody will deny that forks and pocket-handkerchiefs are advantages, though greater naturalness as well as priority of make must be conceded to the fingers. Indeed, "we have all," as the Doctor preaches, "virtues and vices and advantages peculiar to our condition," which fact he proceeds to illustrate by what he rightly denominates a "queer old couplet," never before, we should imagine, quoted in a sermon:—

"Them what is rich, them rides in chaises,
Them what is poor, them walks like blazes."

The advice Dr. Brown gives to "call your doctor early" is not very novel, but he enforces it by a very good comparison: he likens disease to a fire; when the fire began you might perhaps have blown it out with your breath, whereas at the end it defied the power of water and the skill of firemen: so with disease; in the morning a single dose of medicine might put it out, before night it rages hopelessly and baffles the physician's skill. Whatever heresies the Doctor may cherish, his orthodoxy upon one point is undoubtedly; that sin is the parent of death, disease, and every ill that human flesh is heir to, he is so convinced that he considers "the old weaver at Kilmarnock, who, at a meeting for abolishing slavery, the corn-laws, and a few more things, said, 'Mr. Preses, I move that we abolish Original Sin,' was at least beginning at the right end." The third sermon, upon "Children and how to Guide Them," contains many excellent pieces of advice, but we could willingly have dispensed with the earlier part of it, in which is discussed the question whence babies come; the Doctor seems just here to have forgotten that he is not addressing children, but men and women. He appears to us also to have forced in the story of the little girl who, when she was asked, "Who made you?" said, holding up her apron as a measure, "God made me that length, and I grew the rest myself,"—his remark upon which that it "was not quite true, for she could not grow one half-inch by herself," must have struck grown-up people as more remarkable for veracity than profundity. We perfectly agree with Dr. Brown, that a child should look "sweet and *caller* from top to bottom" every morning, and "dirty at night," or he cannot have done his duty during the day, which is undoubtedly to behave himself like a *steerin' bairn*. A picture of such a one he gives from William Miller:—

"Wee Willie Winkie
Rins through the town,
Up stairs an' down stairs
In his nicht-gown,
Tirlin' at the window,
Crying at the loek,
Are the weans in their bed,
For it's noo ten o'clock?"

"Hey, Willie Winkie,
Are ye comin' ben?
The cat's singin' grey thrums
To the sleepin' hen,
The dog's speldert on the floor,
And disna gi'e a cheep,
But here's a waukrife laddie!
That winna fa asleep."

"Onything but sleep, you rogue!
Glow rin' like the moon:
Rattlin' in an airm jug
Wi' an airm spoon,
Rumblin', tumblin', roun' about,
Crawlin' like a cock,
Skirlin' like a kenn-a-what,
Wauk'n' sleepin' folk."

"Hey, Willie Winkie,
The wean's in a creel!
Wamblin' aff a bodie's knee
Like a verr'a eel,
Ruggin' at the cat's lug,
And ravelin' a' her thrums—
Hey, Willie Winkie—
See, there he comes!"

"Wearled is the mither
That has a stoorie wean,
A wee stumpie stousie,
Wha canna rin his lane,
That has a battle aye wi' sleep
Afore he'll close an e'e—
But ae kiss frae aff his rosy lips
Gi'es strength anew to me."

The fourth sermon is a lecture upon the treatment of the skin, the head, the lungs, the heart, and the stomach. How Dr. Brown would fare at the hands of the Turkish-Bathites we shudder to imagine; his regimen is, "Have a regular scrubbing of all your body every Saturday night, and if you can manage it, you should every morning wash not only your face, but your throat and breast with cold water, and rub yourself quite dry with a hard towel till you glow all over." He evidently takes a very modified view of the cleansing process; he surely cannot be aware that with the exception of those who use the Turkish Bath there is not a clean man or woman in Great Britain. The fifth sermon we would recommend to the attention of Mr. Spurgeon; "dancing," says Dr. Brown therein, "is just the music of the feet, and the gladness of the young legs, and is well called the poetry of motion;" we do not certainly find "promiscuous" dancing expressly mentioned, but we gather from the context that it is intended; for not even Mr. Spurgeon, we believe, objects to a *pas seul*. Dr. Brown is in sentiment a thorough Nazarite; he would never have a hair of either head or beard any more than of the eyebrows or eyelashes cut; "the finest head of hair," says he, "I know is one which was never cut. It is not too long; it is soft and thick." But then people may differ in their definition of too long: some might think it so if it were much below the waist. We do not know whether men's hair has the same attribute, but women's, we learn, "has an oil of its own," and in their case all application of grease is forbidden. Tooth-brushes are also declared to be unnecessary, and we were a little startled to read that "the healthy man's teeth clean themselves, and so does his skin." As for the teeth, we can only say, if it be so, we either have never been in a state of health or have failed to perceive the self-acting dental force; and as to the skin, we leave that to the Turkish Bath Company. In conclusion, we may say that these lay sermons have one great point of superiority over most clerical, to wit, that they are short.

Title-Deeds of the Church of England to her Parochial Endowments. By Edward Miall. Longman and Co.

JURISTS have had about as much difficulty in defining "property" as metaphysicians have had in performing the same office for "matter." In either case the task seems simple enough to ordinary mortals; and so it may be for ordinary purposes. There is as little danger in one case as in the other of people being misled, by whatever notions they may entertain on the subject, in their every-day transactions; but when we depart from these, it sometimes becomes necessary to analyse our language, and see how far it may be applicable to investigations requiring greater subtlety and a more philosophical treatment. Mr. Miall complains that the question of the existence of a church establishment cannot fairly be discussed so long as the present notions about tithes and other church endowments continue to prevail; and the object of the present work is to examine the title of the Church of England to the exclusive possession of the ecclesiastical endowments which in every parish are set apart for the maintenance of her clergy. He sets about his task in a fair and dispassionate spirit—very much after the fashion of a conveyancer perusing an "Abstract of Title" to such hereditaments and premises as Lord Westbury is now trying to make as easy of transfer as Three per Cents.; and whatever may be the result of our author's labours, in the opinion of critics, it cannot be denied that they are at least characterized by considerable learning and careful logic.

In any inquiry about the endowments of the Church, of course the first step is to define the sense in which the term "Church" is used; and accordingly Mr. Miall starts by distinguishing between the original use of the word, which included the whole body of the people of England as religiously organized, and a more limited community constituted on the basis of a professed agreement in the Articles, Creeds, and other matters sanctioned by the Act of Uniformity. The people of this country have, both in theory and practice, long since ceased to be *religiously* organized in the Church, as the entire body is *politically* organized in the State; and the question which Mr. Miall discusses assumes this. He limits the discussion to the right and title of the Church of England as a particular communion; and in considering the force of his arguments it will be necessary to bear this in mind. As the great bulk of Church property in England consists of tithes, either actual or commuted, Mr. Miall devotes his attention mainly to the consideration of the origin and nature of these endowments, with the view of showing what are, or rather, what ought to be, the existing rights and interests in them. His fundamental proposition is, "that regarded as property separated for public religious uses from the rest of the property of this country, they are the product of public laws exclusively, ecclesiastical or civil, or both; and that they neither did, nor, in the nature of things, could originate in private individual liberality." Many of the arguments adduced in favour of the inviolability of ecclesiastical property proceed upon the assumptions—first, that it originally belonged to private persons, and was voluntarily devoted by them to the use of the Church; and secondly, that the Church itself, if not what lawyers would call a *corporation*, is something like a corporate entity, consisting of a definite and ascertained body of persons. Mr. Miall brings great research to bear upon the first point, and we

think shows conclusively that territorial tithes had their origin in compulsory enactments, and not in private benevolence.

So early as the Parliament of Winchester, A.D. 855, a law of tithes for the whole realm of England was passed by general consent, and Mr. Miall adduces this and several other instances in which the Saxon Kings ordained and enforced the payment of tithes. William the Conqueror and his immediate successors followed their example, and no one needs to be told that in later times the discharge of the obligation in question has been by no means at the option of those who were liable. Our author devotes the greater part of his book to the discussion of the *origin* of tithes, but he also traces their development in detail. Thus we have an account of predial tithes, both great and small, as well as mixed and personal tithes. He gives us a very interesting account of the modern expansion of tithe endowments, in which he shows that from 1760 to 1849 no less than a third, and during the last century no less than three-fourths of the tithe property of the kingdom was brought into existence by the enclosure of waste lands. It was not until the reign of Edward VI. that an Act of Parliament was passed for the tithing of barren land which became improved. Upon the whole, then, there can be little doubt that eight-ninths of the tithe property of England are directly the product of compulsory statutes, and that as to the remaining ninth it is fairly, although not so certainly, attributable to the same source.

How, then, can we account for the very general prevalence of the notion that the Church has been mainly indebted to the pious liberality of our ancestors—for which of course there must be some colour of reason? There are few persons who are conversant with the older history or archaeology of this country who are not familiar with the ancient grants and charters for monastic and other pious uses which were common in those days; and this fact of itself is sufficient to account for the existence of the popular fallacy that the great bulk of Church property was voluntarily contributed by the faithful of former times. It is not generally known, however, that although, even before the Norman conquest, the payment of tithes was compulsory, the purposes to which they were applicable were not clearly defined; while, moreover, those who were compelled to pay them were allowed considerable latitude in the selection of the recipients. Among the canons attributed to Egbert, Archbishop of York, is one recognizing a tripartite division—one for the decoration of the Church, another for the use of the poor, and a third for the minister. After some time, however, the minister took all, with the full allowance of the law; but not until the commencement of the thirteenth century was the landowner compelled to pay his tithes to the minister of the parish. He could assign them to any church or religious house in the kingdom. The law only insisted upon the payment of a tenth for the pious uses which it defined, but it gave the landowner the option of selecting the particular recipients of his statutory bounty. This will explain the abundance of the grants and chartularies to which we have referred. A gift of this kind was regarded by the donee in very much the same light as a good public appointment is now viewed by the *protégé* of a Minister of State. Some parson or religious house must receive the bounty, just as some one must be appointed to the public office; and so the recipient in old times, as he would be now, was thankful for what was received, although, at the same time, he knew that the benefactor

had no option but to give to some one. This right of assignment, however, was too good to last very long; and it is worth observing that the greater part of the tithes so assigned, being generally to religious houses, fell into the hands of laymen upon the dissolution of the monasteries in the reign of Henry VIII.; so that whatever virtue was in the voluntariness of these appropriations is lost for the purpose of the present argument by the alienation of the property itself. It seems to be clear enough, therefore, that tithes were originally the gift of the State, and that they cannot now be treated upon the same footing as property bestowed by private individuals for special pious or charitable uses.

If the whole question were *res integra*, so far as Parliament is concerned—if the Legislature had now to consider for the first time the right of the State to interfere with the disposition of ecclesiastical property—the point of its origin which Mr. Miall has argued so well would unquestionably be of the utmost importance. But for all practical purposes, except as affording an answer to captious objectors, it may be considered as obsolete and valueless. Not only at the time of the Reformation, but frequently since, the Legislature has asserted over ecclesiastical property a right not only of control, but of absolute alienation. Even before the days of Henry VIII. the Church was treated as holding its property from, and subject to, the State. The theory appears always to have been that in a certain sense the fee of the property was in the State itself, and that it therefore could always define the conditions of its usufruct. Accordingly we find that at one time the minister of every parish in Ireland was obliged by Act of Parliament, as a condition of his holding, to teach the English language to every child that was presented for instruction; and so late as 1786 a portion of Irish ecclesiastical property was appropriated to provide school-houses and schoolmasters in every parish. It would be easy to point out many analogous instances in England, but we shall content ourselves with referring to one only. In 1832 the Legislature, with the consent of the Dean and Chapter of Durham, appropriated a specific portion of the property of the Cathedral Church for the purpose of founding a University, and an Act of Parliament was then passed, empowering a sale of the same, free from any future claim on the part of the Dean and Chapter and their successors for ever. We mention these instances, because they afford good illustrations for our present purpose, and such as we are surprised not to find noticed in Mr. Miall's essay.

On the second question to which we have already adverted, namely, the constitution of the Church itself, Mr. Miall is particularly clear and forcible. All that can be said, however, upon this subject, has already been so well said by Lord Brougham and Sir James Mackintosh, that nothing need be added. The speech of the former upon the Irish Church Temporalities Bill in 1833, completely demolished the notion of the Church being anything like a corporation. But even if there were a sense in which ecclesiastical property might be considered as corporate, it cannot be pretended that, so far as it is so, it is equally inviolable as property belonging to private individuals. Mr. Hallam long ago clearly pointed out the difference between the two species:—"In estates held in mortmain," he says, "there is no natural intercommunity, no natural privity of interest between the present possessor and those who may succeed him; and as the former cannot have any pretext for complaint, if, his own rights being

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preserved, the Legislature should alter the course of transmission after his decease, so neither is any hardship sustained by others, unless their succession has been already designated or rendered probable." From whatever point of view, therefore, we may regard the question of ecclesiastical property, there can be no doubt that Parliament has not only the power but also the right to deal with the property of the Church as belonging to the State—subject, of course, to existing interests. Tithes were originally given by the State for its own purposes, and their subsequent destination has hitherto been controlled according to the will of the State. Such rights as exist in ecclesiastical persons are only individual rights in the nature of "something more than a salary and something less than an estate." And if, amongst those who cry out "spoliation" and "robbery" whenever Parliament proposes to interfere with ecclesiastical "loaves and fishes," there are any who believe what they say, we can recommend Mr. Miall's work as a very useful corrective of this now happily expiring illusion.

Ricordi Storici di Filippo di Cino Rinuccini, dal 1282 al 1460; colla Continuazione di Alamanno e Neri suoi Figli, fino al 1506; seguiti di altri monumenti di Storia patria; e preceduti dalla Storia genealogica della loro Famiglia, e dalla Descrizione della Capella Gentilizia in Santa Croce; con Documenti ed Illustrazioni. Per cura ed opera di G. Aiaazzi, Bibliotecario della Rinucciniana. Firenze: Piatti. 1840.

THE handsome quarto volume which bears the title given at length above is an excellent specimen of a class of books in which Italian literature is, and has long been, rich, and of which our own can show some recent and highly-successful examples. But there are very sufficient reasons why Italy should be richer than any other country in works of this kind. In the old mediaeval republics every citizen of note had at one time or another of his life some part in the government of the country, was busied in public matters, and thus naturally led to make record of them. In our own country, as well as in France and Germany, the men of high rank who shared in the administration of public affairs were very much fewer in number, and were, moreover, at a corresponding period, more frequently men of the sword than men of the pen. The reverse was generally the case in Italy, especially in the great commercial republics—as Florence, Venice, or Pisa. The "cedant armatoe" began in those communities at a very much earlier epoch than in the feudal monarchies of Europe. All the governing class was composed of men more or less accustomed to the pen; and the "quorum pars magna fui" was a constant inducement to the penning of records.

"Nearly all our ancient and worthy citizens of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries [writes Signor Aiaazzi, in his preface], were accustomed to keep, besides their books of commerce, in which were recorded the operations of their rich and extensive business, one book in which they registered the names of those citizens who were chosen by ballot every two months to be members of the council of the 'Priori,' and of those elders who were nominated to the supreme dignity of 'Gonfaloniere.' These volumes, which from the name of the above-mentioned office were called 'Prioristi,' answered to the tables on which in ancient Rome the names of the consuls were inscribed, and which were called 'Fasti Consulares.' And there is probably no family among our ancient and illustrious Floren-

tine houses that does not possess one of them. These 'Prioristi,' besides the lists of those who from time to time entered into office for the different wards of the city, generally contain in the margins of them, and often in the body of the pages, historical notices relating to any events which occurred in the city, or in the states under the government of the Republic, or even in other parts of Italy or abroad, when the circumstances were such as to make a noise in the world and to appear to the diarist worthy of being remembered. These diaries, thus recording facts under their veritable dates, have been used with great advantage by the authors of our histories. And Machiavelli, Guicciardini, Ammirato, and many others, trusting to these brief and simple accounts for the certainty and truth of the events narrated by them, proceeded by their own acuteness, and according to their own political opinions, to investigate the causes of them, and to deduce from them instruction and a rule for social life. The 'Priorista Rinucciniano' has for many years been celebrated among the most highly valued works of this class."

It will be observed, that the term "Priorista," originating in the manner which has been stated, was subsequently applied to record-books not properly so described. In the case before us, Filippo, the son of Cino Rinuccini, wrote the record, now printed by Signor Aiaazzi, from the year 1282 to 1460, a period of a hundred and seventy-eight years. The greater part of this, therefore, was compiled by him from oral tradition, as would seem from one or two phrases here and there, or copied from some older book of the same kind. From 1460 the record is carried on to 1506 by the two sons of Filippo, and is accordingly a veritable diary. This work by Filippo and his two sons occupies a couple of hundred of Signor Aiaazzi's quarto pages, and forms a small portion only of the interesting historical material which he has brought together from the papers in the Rinuccini muniment-room.

In the first place, there is a very complete and elaborate history of the family, from the time when, eight hundred years ago, the feudal lords of some lands and castles at the foot of the Vallombrosa mountains seem to have been, like many others of their compeers, hurried out of their fortified homes by the burghers of Florence, because their noble predatory habits became intolerable to the rising commerce of the neighbouring city. But, as in very many similar cases,—in that, for instance, of the earliest ancestors of the Bonaparte family, whose cradle was a feudal hold three or four miles from Florence,—the feudal lords, thus extirpated as nuisances from their fortresses, neither perished nor were lost to history; but civilized themselves, became citizens of Florence, and with others of their ancient territorial compeers founded most of the oldest families which held the offices of the Republic, and of which some still survive to the present day to administer the affairs of a larger commonwealth.

We might draw on these old family histories for abundance of interesting and amusing matter, could we afford space for the purpose. But we shall need all at our disposal for a brief notice of the other portions of Signor Aiaazzi's work.

These consist of the following short memorials:—

1. The lives of sundry worthies of the family by contemporary writers.

2. An account of the Embassy of Alamanno Rinuccini from the Republic of Florence to Pope Sixtus IV.

3. Memoranda, by Cino Rinuccini, written about the middle of the fifteenth century, consisting chiefly of a very curious and detailed account of the presents he gave to the lady who afterwards became his wife, and of his

marriage; with minute particulars of the lady's dower, and of all the property she brought with her to her husband's house; in the list of which we find duly registered, "Tapes of various sorts, and threads of different colours."

4. Memoranda of Filippo Rinuccini at the beginning of the sixteenth century, as, e.g., "This day, the 14th May, 1503, I promised my brother Andrew to give him a pair of my new stockings, on condition that for the space of two months he should read every morning and evening at table some lecture in Latin verse; and at the end of the two months I am to give him the stockings. And so it was agreed." Then the diarist gives an account of a quarrel as the family were sitting one evening after supper; how Lorenzo, a cousin, "spoke ill of my brother Thomas, and on my contradicting him gave me the lie again and again, and I never said a word in return, as Monna Piera was present;" how, on Lorenzo continuing to be insolent and provocative, "I gave him a box on the ear, but did not hit him well as I meant; and when I turned my back towards him, he took me by the hair of my head behind, and gave me several blows in the face with his fist, and made much blood come out of my nose. And, inasmuch as he did me this injury, both in word and deed, without any just cause, I have made this record of it, that I may remember it in due time and place, and let him see his mistake." Then follows, between brackets, and evidently written at a subsequent time—"This record is cancelled; for I have forgiven him. May God so forgive me my sins!"

5. 6. Two other short records about the same period, one of them a very curious account by Ottavio Rinuccini, of his journey into France to the court of Henry IV., for the purpose of attempting to recover certain debts due to the family in Dauphiné.

7, and last, the most curious and interesting chapter in the entire volume. It is entitled, "Considerations on the change of manners and customs in the course of the last century; notes commenced by me, Cavaliere Tommaso Rinuccini, in the year 1665, with the intention of continuing them as long as God shall give me life, I being now in the sixty-ninth year of my age."

The changes in fashion which this worthy Cavalier Thomas observed around him are distributed under various general headings, all full of curious notices, as "Marriages," "Funerals and Obsequies," "Baptisms," "Taking the Veil by Nuns," "Territorial Titles," "Carriages, Saddle-horses, and Litters." Under this head the Cavalier Thomas writes as follows:—

"Towards the end of the last century the use of carriages began to be introduced; but in the beginning of this century it had not become common, and many of the noble families did not possess one. But little by little, on the occasion of weddings or other such pretext, everybody has set up a carriage, and many have four horses to them, and the richest people six. At first the carriages were small, made of leather inside and outside, and placed on the axles of the wheels, so that the motion was inconvenient enough. Then they began to make them with straps, so that they might go better, and after that they fastened these straps to bows of steel, well tempered, which, yielding to the jolts, caused the movement to be much more easy. They are made, for the richest people, of black velvet, and sometimes also of coloured velvet, with fringe inside and outside, and with the inside of the roof gilt. Up to the middle of the century some of the most wealthy families used, on occasion of civic festivals, a coach, which was of rose-coloured velvet inside, and purple outside, with eight gilt balls at the corners. But these have, since that time, been

entirely disused. In 1670 there was introduced from Paris a new fashion of carriage, supported on long bands, which vibrate very much, and they are called *poltroncine* [arm-chairs] from their great comfort; and the steel bows have been given up in consequence of the danger of their breaking. In almost all noble families they kept a horse or a mule, which was used for those who could not or would not go on foot; and they were used in the city with housings of silk, and also velvet, or cloth bordered with velvet, and in the country with saddles of leather. But with the multiplication of carriages these have been entirely given up, and now only one or two persons keep horses of state to ride in the city for their pleasure, as a much greater number used to do twenty-five years ago. And nowadays the saddles are used of all sorts of colours. When ladies used to go to their villas, they went on horseback, and the children in two paniers on a mule; but nowadays they go in carriages, where the road is good, and where it is not, in a carriage-litter; for at present there are a great number of these for hire, whereas at the beginning of this century there was but one, which was used only for bringing some sick person from a villa into the city. Now some of the most wealthy and the laziest people keep a litter of their own, to use it in the country. At this very time at which I am writing, a convenience has been introduced from Paris, consisting of a covered seat, placed on two long poles, which vibrate, resting on the back of a horse, and behind on two wheels. To this sort of chair the name of *caleche* has been given; and the use of them has increased so rapidly, that in the year 1667 there were found to be nearly a thousand of them in the city; and the litters are in great measure gone out of use."

On the changes which had taken place in the matter of address either on letters or in speaking, we are told that—

"The nobility, at the beginning of this century, used no other superscription on their letters than 'Most Illustrious,' and in the body of the letter, and in speaking, V. S. [Vossignoria, i.e. Vostra Signoria, your Lordship], and ceremoniously 'Your most attached servant' was used. And when a noble, the head of a family, had to write to another noble, but a young man, the son of a noble family, he would have styled him 'Illustrious,' and would have received from him in return 'Most Illustrious'; and, in like manner, a noble of the highest nobility, and one of more recent creation treated each other. With the introduction of the title 'Marchese' [a recent innovation in the preceding century], there began to be introduced in the superscription of letters the title of 'Illustrissimo,' which was very soon adopted by every other noble, and then introduced also into the body of letters, with the final courtesy of 'Your most Obliged, most Devoted, most Humble Servitor, your Servant,' and other such like forms, according as it was wished more or less to flatter and to show oneself obsequious. And lastly, the custom of using the title 'Illustrissimo' has become so common, even in speaking, that even persons of low condition have learned to use it to gentlemen, and down to the very beggars, in asking alms. And as to the 'Most Illustrious,' that has been handed on to the shopkeepers. To the two Dukes, Salviati and Strozzi [the only two Tuscany possessed, and who had always affected a superiority to all the other noblesse] one uses the title of 'Eccellenissimo' both in writing and in speaking; but on ceremonial occasions all the nobility of the first class claims to be treated on the footing of equality."

On the subject of "man-servants and maid-servants," we have the following, from which it will be seen how long the old thrifty habits of the Florentine Republican times continued to influence the mode of life in Florence, after more ostentatious and pompous customs had been in vogue in other cities both to the north and south of the Alps:—

"The usage was to keep only two men-servants, of whom one was called the 'Speditore,' and bought all that was needed and kept the accounts, and the other did the service of the house, served

at table, &c., went out with the mistress, and did all other errands in the city, according to need. And where there was a carriage a coachman was kept besides. To the latter they gave ten lire [the lira is equal to 8*½*d.] a month, to the 'Speditore' the same sum, and to the other servants eight, and they clothed themselves. Later, the use of liveries was introduced little by little, and people began to clothe thus their coachmen and the servant who went out with the mistress; and lastly they began to increase the number of the latter, so that at the present day [1675] the nobility of the first rank keep several livery servants, and ladies take out with them at least two, and gentlemen one. And now wages are, besides clothing, a crown (about 4*s. 6d.*) a month. The maid-servants used to be three in number: that is to say, a cook, who did everything connected with the kitchen; a second, who was called 'donna di mezzo' [literally, a woman of the middle—meaning, probably, in the midst of general duties], because she went out with the mistress, swept the rooms, made the beds, and did all else that was necessary; and also, if need were, sometimes helped the cook in making bread, or otherwise. To these two was given, besides their keep, half-a-crown, or four lire a month. The third woman was a person of somewhat better education, and was called the matron. Out of doors, both in the carriage and on foot, it was her duty to keep her mistress company; and in doors she was occupied in sewing for her, and assisted in dressing her and arranging her hair, although some mistresses kept for this latter service a young girl. And the matron received six or seven lire a month, and the girl at the end of a few years was married, with a dower of a hundred or a hundred and fifty crowns. [It is remarkable that this 'girl' would thus be recompensed at a higher rate than any of the other servants of either sex, if we estimate the length of her service at four or five years. The phrase in the original is, 'qualch' anno.' Perhaps the girls chosen for such situations came from a somewhat higher social class, and were preferred to their position as an act of patronage and kindness.] The custom of keeping a matron has of late years been completely given up; for the ladies do not any longer take out any women with them, but go in their carriages alone, and when on foot lean on a servant in livery. But the richer ladies of title take with them in their carriages some young girl, whom they term 'damigella,' and they lean on the arm of an elderly servant out of livery, to whom the name of 'the man in black,' or the 'bracciere' (arm-giver), has been assigned. Women of the shopkeeping class, in order not to go out alone, for the most part keep a shopman in their pay, giving him ten lire a month; and it is his business on *festa* days to accompany them to the mass, or elsewhere. And a man so employed is called by the common people a 'domenichino,' because he is had for service on Sundays (*Domenica*).

There is an interesting article on the practice of carrying offensive and defensive arms, and the laws regulating this subject. We find that in the olden time the laws were very severe against carrying arms of any sort within the city, and were sparingly relaxed in favour of men of high rank. But gradually, by the time of our author, any arms were permitted by the Grand-Dukes to be carried by anybody who could pay an annual tax for the privilege of doing so. The result was, that the fashion of doing so gradually went out. Only some "young nobles, who affected elegance and eccentricity, have introduced the custom of having a servant behind them, with an immensely long sword under his arm."

An article "On Games" is interesting and curious, as well as another on "Clothes," which is thus prefaced:—

"The varieties of dress which have prevailed in this age have been so many, that it is impossible to mention them all, or even the greater part of them. I will not, however, omit to name a few, first those of the men, and then those of the women;

having first premised that at the beginning of this century everybody was anxious to dress after the manner and fashion of Spain, whereas now all wish to dress entirely after the manner of France. From that country come all the fashions and modes, as well for men as for women."

Among other matters, too long for extract, on this large subject, we shall that—

"Nowadays [about 1660] everybody dresses entirely in black; and one sees no more of pantaloons of colour, except now and then in the case of some affected youth. And the mode of embroidering coats has entirely gone out."

Under the date 1667 we read a special note to the effect that—

"Nearly all the young men have taken to wearing pearl-coloured stockings, so that they look like just so many men in livery."

And again, in 1672—

"Nearly every young man now wears a smart wig, without having the least regard to the colour of his own hair, and they shave their moustache, and wear shoes all over ribbons, and some even put jewels on them."

In 1677—

"The fringes of black silk for trimming coats are come into fashion again."

As to the progress of ladies' costume, we can only afford space to note that the dresses were worn lower and lower, and every year witnessed a more liberal display of shoulders. Moreover, the widows were in those days gradually emancipating themselves from all external marks of their condition. The same two tendencies are still in progress, we are told. And very curious it is that, considering the long time both "movements" have been going on, the ladies have not yet reached the costume of Paradise, nor the widows entirely got rid of the outward and visible trappings of woe. The young widows in those days took to wearing "on their foreheads a little circlet of light-coloured hair, which they call a 'parruchino,' and which looks excessively ugly on those whose hair is of a different colour," in which latter opinion we are inclined wholly to agree with the elderly cavalier.

Here are a few other scattered notices:—

"At the beginning of this century [1600] nothing but leather was used for hanging saloons and chambers. . . . Afterwards gradually people began to use satin or damask hangings, and the richest people velvet and gold-brocaded hangings."

The frames of the pictures about the same time began to be entirely gilt, whereas previously they had been black, with gilt lines. Formerly there were fireplaces and water-cisterns in the principal rooms, for the people to wash their hands before going to dinner, with a brazen basin, and a round towel hanging near. But—

"Lately the water-cisterns and the fireplaces have been walled up, and the number of servants, as I before remarked, having been increased, everybody makes his servant give him water for his hands in a silver basin, and in winter the servants keep a brazier of fire in the saloons."

A mode of replacing a fireplace which seems strange in a period of increasing luxury, and which would appear to indicate that the social tendencies were towards ostentation rather than comfort.

"Recently people have begun to store up ice in winter in order to use it in summer for the cooling of wine, water, fruits and other things; and this luxury has taken such root that many use ice also in winter, and the increase of the use of it is worthy of note. For in the year 1609 Antonio Paolsanti, groom of the chambers to his Serene Highness the Grand Duke, farmed the monopoly of furnishing ice at 400 lire a year, and this year, 1665, it is farmed

for 4,300 lire. When in winter it does not freeze, the farmers of the monopoly are obliged to cause snow to be brought from the mountains, which they take care to store up, at its due season, in holes made expressly for the purpose."

"This year, 1668, there has been introduced into Florence the use of a beverage from Spain called chocolate, and it has become very general. It seems that people take it hot as well as cold."

"A few years ago a house was opened in the Piazza di Santa Trinità, to which the name of 'Casino' was given. And there, both in the daytime and in the evening, all the nobility assemble and play at various games. And this open gaming has been permitted by the Grand Duke, because, as none but nobles frequented the place, it did not seem that any of those evils could arise which have led to the prohibition of similar places."

This "Casino," at which many readers of these lines may have enjoyed the balls given by the members, ceased to exist a very few years ago, having become bankrupt.

"Women of evil life formerly wore always a visible sign of their infamous calling. It was a yellow ribbon around the hat, which was very generally worn; and if they had none, they put a yellow mark in their hair. And if they were found without it, they were punished. Gradually this rule began to be disregarded, and the payment of a tax substituted. Nowadays the outward mark is no longer used, nor is there any means of knowing them except by their impudent bearing."

"The Jews used all to wear a red hat, with the exception of one or two merchants, who, by supplication, had obtained leave to wear a black one. Nowadays, be the cause what it may, they all wear black hats, and there is no way to know them from Christians."

The whole of the paper from which these extracts have been taken is extremely interesting, and, for the history of the progress of social manners in Tuscany, invaluable.

Passing on to the "Priorista," which contributes the principal feature to Signor Aiazz's publication, we glean a few notices:—

"1288. From the middle of February to the middle of April. In this time the Pisans caused the Count Ugolino de' Conti della Gherardesca and his sons and nephews to die of hunger in a tower, which is by the side of the palace of the Captain of Pisa."

"1321. 14th September. This day died our wonderful Florentine poet, Dante Alighieri."

A very interesting notice of "his life and customs" follows. It is the longest article in the whole of the volume, extending to eight quarto pages; and is therefore too long for extract.

"1374. 18th July. This day died Messer Francesco Petrarca, in Arquà, sixteen miles from Padua. Great honours were shewn him."

Under the date July and August, 1399, there is an interesting notice of the "Bianchi," those white-clad fanatics who roamed from city to city throughout Italy in vast numbers, singing hymns and making "revivals." The author, however, speaks nothing of their disorderly conduct, but, on the other hand, declares that their behaviour was entirely inoffensive and laudable. He closes his account by saying simply and categorically that the circumstance "was a forewarning of the pestilence which came in the following year," and which he records to have carried off in Florence one-third of the population.

1418. This year the rulers of the Republic

"Sent a most solemn embassy into Lombardy to Pope Martin V.; and the Municipality of Florence clothed all the ambassadors, and their squires and servants, at the cost of the city; the ambassadors in crimson velvet, the squires in rose colour, and the servants in scarlet; and we were all most handsomely mounted, in all sixty-two horses and twelve

baggage-mules; and never was there seen such an embassy, so many silken dresses and so many pearls as we young men had on our backs. We found the said Pope Martin at Milan; and then we made our first visit, and the General made a speech which lasted an hour—such a speech as never was heard before; and there were perhaps a hundred pens writing it down as he spoke; and he did great honour to himself and to the Republic."

1492. On Saturday, the 11th of August, about ten o'clock (about six in the morning of our reckoning),—

"Alexander VI. was created Pope in Rome by the College of Cardinals. The election was said and thought to have been made by mere and express simony; for he was an exceedingly rich cardinal. The news reached Florence the same day, the 11th, about 22^{1/2} hours, that is about twelve hours after the creation" (a most extraordinary and almost incredible speed in transmitting news, which by the mail at the present day would require forty hours for its transmission!) "He was a man of high spirit, proud, and liberal; and it was esteemed a good election for the honour and reputation of the Roman Church." With which astounding specimen of seventeenth century opinion we will bring our gleaning from Signor Aiazz's interesting and well-executed volume to a close.

SHORT NOTICES.

A Descriptive Catalogue of the Works of the Camden Society. By John Gough Nichols, F.S.A. (Nichols and Sons.) The Camden Society was founded in 1838, its formation having been suggested by the success which had attended the Surtees Society. Its object was to perpetuate and render accessible whatever is valuable, but little known, amongst the materials for the civil, ecclesiastical, or literary history of the United Kingdom. William Camden, the topographer of *Britannia*, was chosen for its presiding genius. How far it has fulfilled its design may be judged of by the Catalogue of eighty volumes now before us, comprising an immense variety of curious pieces; most of which, but for its exertions, would no doubt have continued to slumber unused. Among them are found such curiosities as the works of Walter Mapes, the *Peterboro' Chronicle*, the *Ancren Riwle*, *Jocelin of Brakelond's Chronicle of the Abbey of Bury St. Edmunds* (immortalized by Carlyle), the *Thronton Romances*, the *Travels of Nicander Nicetus*, &c. &c. Mr. Nichols's Catalogue, which is printed to match with the volumes issued by the Society, contains a full and interesting description of the contents of each volume, and forms a most valuable index to the whole, by which the historical student may be guided to the materials which he wants.

Shakespeare: a Reprint of his Collected Works as put forth in 1623. Part I. containing the Comedies. (Booth.) It is with much satisfaction that we welcome this first instalment of Mr. Booth's reprint of the folio Shakespeare, 1623. Amid the apparently endless maze of doubt and conjecture with respect to the *ipsissima verba* of the poet in which we now-a-days wander, and at a time when almost every succeeding year produces a fresh editor or commentator upon his works, it is certainly a great boon to possess a standard book like that which is now before us. The original has hitherto been beyond the reach of any except the wealthiest of collectors, and its extreme rarity has not only maintained its high price, but has rendered it inaccessible to those who have not the opportunity of seeing it in some public library. True it is that in 1808 a copy which professed to be an exact reproduction was issued from the press, but it is so full of inaccuracies that it is to all intents and purposes utterly worthless. The present volume, on the contrary, is executed with the greatest care, and with the utmost fidelity has the editor preserved the minutest error of the original. Mr. Booth is entitled to our thanks for producing this volume at a price which is comparatively within the

reach of all classes of readers, and thus giving to each student of Shakespere, both in our own and other countries, an opportunity of noting for himself all the changes that have from time to time been made, and testing the value of the various readings which have been suggested from the date of the publication of the first folio up to the present day. These are, indeed, no slight advantages, for, as Mr. Booth remarks (quoting from Mr. H. Staunton), "the folio of 1623 is the only authority we possess for above one-half of Shakespere's plays, and a very important one for those which had been published before its appearance." Hence it is obvious that to all those who would study the dramas critically the present volume is indispensable, while to the general reader it will be most interesting as showing the usage of words, the style of orthography, and indicating various other points connected with our language and literature at a period so nearly contemporary with the great poet himself. If we have any fault to find with the work, it consists solely in the size of the type. We think it would have been advantageous if a larger character had been adopted. As it is, notwithstanding the excellence of the paper, and the extreme beauty and clearness of the printing, those whose eyesight is in any way defective may, we fear, find it a somewhat difficult task to read it. In conclusion, we may observe that after a close scrutiny of this reprint, and a careful comparison of it with its prototype, we have found it thoroughly trustworthy and accurate. We have in no instance discovered, in any of the numerous passages which we have examined, the slightest variation or discrepancy between it and the original. Mr. Booth tells us that "in this reproduction of the first edition of the collected works of Shakespere, the prime object has been to secure its entire identity with the original." In this he has, it appears, in the present portion of his work, entirely and admirably succeeded; and should the "Historical Plays" and the "Tragedies" pass through the press as accurately as the "Comedies" have done, Mr. Booth will have supplied what has long been felt as desideratum, and have established a claim to the gratitude of all lovers of our national literature and language. The reprint has been executed under the supervision of Mr. Charles Wright.

Men of the Time: a Biographical Dictionary of Eminent Living Characters (including Women). By E. Walford, M.A. (Routledge.) It will not be Mr. Walford's fault if the world continues to know nothing of its greatest men. The volume before us is a sort of Post-Office Directory or Bradshaw, not only to the greatest but to the smallest men. It is unhappily composed a little too much in the style of those two famous manuals, containing, in many cases, nothing but an arid collection of dates and a meagre list of works. The compiler designs his work to be for "the aristocracy of intellect," what the *Red Book* or *Court Guide* is for the aristocracy of birth—a kind of useful handbook, to lie at one's elbow when reading the newspapers, and to give us a glimpse into the private life of favourite contemporary authors. We must do Mr. Walford the justice to say that he does not forget the excellent dictum about the hero and his valet, and that he has discretion and good taste enough to spare us most of those impertinent details of private life with which such works generally abound, and which, however gratifying to a frivolous curiosity, it is most unjustifiable to expose. It is a common notion, that if a man writes a book, not only his book but the author himself becomes public property. A moment's reflection would suffice to show how preposterous this idea is; the book is the property of the critics and the public, and so is the reputation of its writer, but only so far as it affects or is affected by the book. The author and the man are, as far as the world is concerned, two different persons. Hence the impertinence of these "Loungers at Clubs," "Table-Talkers," "Johnsons Behind the Screen," &c., whose foolish tittle-tattle is so gratifying to a certain class of readers. Mr. Walford has, as we have said, avoided this error. We cannot say that he has been equally judicious in his selection of intellectual aristocrats. We find in his list of "Men of the Time, including Women," a large proportion to fame unknown, and whose insertion has rendered the volume inconveniently ponderous.

It would be invidious to point out any of these supernumeraries of the Temple of Fame, but we will answer for it that there are some two or three hundred names which will never be referred to in this country, whatever may be the case in America. Perhaps, after all, these American divines and surgeons are persons whom not to know argues oneself unknown. We have also to complain that space is not accorded a little more in proportion to merit: Mr. E. T. Smith, for example, is almost as important from this point of view as his namesake, the Professor of Modern History at Oxford. On the whole, however, this dictionary will answer its purpose as a convenient book of reference very tolerably, in spite of one or two sins both of omission and commission.

Some Points of the Education Question, practically considered with reference to the Report of the Commissioners and the New Minute, with a brief Outline of the Rise and Progress of Popular Education in England. By A. Garfit, M.A. (Longmans.) Although the market is already overstocked with pamphlets and speeches on the Education Question, Mr. Garfit's little book will find room to maintain a position of its own. It contains matter of permanent value. In a concise form it gives a clear history of the whole question, its origin, its progress, and its present condition. We regret we cannot afford space for a larger notice of its contents. All we can say is, that to any who wish for information on the subject, it will be a most useful compendium.

The Life and Epistles of St. Paul. By W. J. Conybeare, M.A., and J. P. Howson, M.A. (Longmans.) A cheap edition of this work will be a boon to many. Of the merits of the book itself it is needless to speak. They are fully recognized by all who have considered the subjects of which he treats. It is the most exhaustive treatise extant on the writings of St. Paul, supplying, as it does, information of every known incident and detail which in any way bear upon his life or his works. It has also the advantage of being written in a clear and "talking" style. Many to whom the price of the former editions was a serious obstacle, will now have the opportunity of appropriating the knowledge it supplies.

BOOKS ANNOUNCED.

Ainsworth (W. H.), *Constable of the Tower*, new edition, post 8vo, 5s. Chapman and Hall.

Alford (H.), *Greek Testament*, new edition, vol. iv., part 2, 8vo, 14s. Livingston.

Archer (T. C.), *Vegetable Products of the World in Common Use*, 16mo, 2s. 6d. Routledge.

Bacon (Lord), *Letters and Life*, by Spedding, vols. I. and II. 8vo, 24s. Longman.

Barrett (A. C.), *Propositions in Mechanics and Hydrostatics*, third edition, post 8vo, £2. Bell.

Betham (Rev. W.), *Gospel according to St. Matthew*, with Notes, 12mo, 3s. National Society.

Bickersteth (E.), *Family Guide to Chief Truths of the Gospel*, new edition, 18mo, 1s. 6d. Seeley.

Blake (J. L.), *Historical, Biographical, and Poetical Reader*, 12mo, 2s. Allman.

Book and its Story, new edition, 12mo, 4s. Kent.

Book of Dates, or Treasury of Universal Reference, post 8vo, 7s. 6d. Griffin.

British Empire, Historical, Biographical, and Geographical, third edition, post 8vo, 7s. 6d. Griffin.

Bromfield (E.), *Recollections of Brittany*, in prose and verse, 12mo, 2s.

Browning (E. B.), *Last Poems*, post 8vo, 6s. Chapman and Hall.

Bryce (James), *Universal Gazetteer*, third edition, post 8vo, 8s. 6d. Griffin.

Channing (W. E.), *Complete Works*, new edition, 2 vols., 8vo, 10s. 6d. Griffin.

Comforter (The), by Author of 'God is Love,' fifth edition, 12mo, 5s. Darton.

Cooper (J. F.), *The Spy*, new edition, 12mo, 1s. Routledge.

Dale (W. K.), *Poems, Legend of the Golden King*, second edition, 12mo, 5s. Simpkin.

De Quincey (T.), *Works*, new edition, vol. III., post 8vo, 4s. 6d.

Dickens (C.), *David Copperfield*, new edition, vol. I. post 8vo, 7s. 6d.

Drayson (A. W.), *Sporting Scenes amongst the Kaffirs*, post 8vo, 2s. Routledge.

Dunbar (Lady), *Friendly Tour Round Coasts of Spain and Portugal*, post 8vo, 5s. Blackwood.

English Retraited, Remarks Critical and Philological, post 8vo, 6s. Bell.

English Catalogue of Books for 1861, royal 8vo, 3s. 6d. Low.

Famous Boys, and how they became Great Men, ninth edition, 15mo, 3s. 6d. Darton.

Gatty (Mrs.), *Old Folks from Home, Holiday in Ireland*, second edition, post 8vo, 7s. 6d. Bell.

Grant (James), *Original Hymns and Poems*, third edition 12mo, 2s. Hamilton.

Gray (J.), *New Exercises in Orthography*, nineteenth edition, 18mo, 1s. Simpkin.

Hall (Mrs. S. C.), *Can Wrong be Right*, 2 vols., post 8vo, 21s. Hurst and Blackett.

Hamilton (Patrick), *The First Preacher and Martyr of the Scottish Reformation*, by Lorimer, 12mo, 3s. 6d. Griffin.

Hardwicke's Shilling Baronetage, 1862, 32mo, 1s.

Hardwicke's Shilling Peerage, 1862, 32mo, 1s.

Holmes (Sir W. K.), *Free Cotton, and how and where to grow it*, 8vo, 1s. Chapman and Hall.

Incidents in Life of a Slave Girl, edited by L. M. Child, 12mo, 1s. Twesten.

James (J. A.), *Works*, edited by his Son, vol. xiv. post 8vo, 7s. 6d. Hamilton.

Jones's How to Make Home Happy, 12mo, 2s. Ward and Lock.

Jukes (J. B.), *Student's Manual of Geology*, post 8vo, 12s. 6d. Black.

Lennox (Lord W.), *Recreations of a Sportsman*, 3 vols., post 8vo, 21s. Hurst and Blackett.

Lever (C.), *Davenport Dunn*, new edition, 2 vols., 8vo, 14s. Chapman and Hall.

Little Helps for Our Little Ones, new edition, 12mo, 1s. Darton.

Loth (J. T.), *Ten Pounds' Worth of French for One Shilling*, 12mo, 1s. Marlborough.

Low (S.), *Charities of London in 1861*, 12mo, 3s. 6d. Low.

Mackanay (Lord), *History of England*, with Life, vol. viii., 12mo, 6s. Longman.

Mallott (J. W.), *Cotton, the Chemical, Geological, and Meteorological Conditions in its Cultivation*, post 8vo, 7s. 6d. Chapman and Hall.

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Strong (Rev. C.), *Sonnets*, second edition, post 8vo, 5s.

Trench (Mrs. E.), *Remains*, edited by Dean of Westminster, 8vo, 1s. Parker and Son.

Vernon (Rev. W. B.), *Early Choice*, a book for daughters, new edition, 12mo, 3s. 6d. Nelson.

Useful Library: *Fredley's How to Make Money*, 12mo, 1s. Routledge.

Voltaire's *History of Charles XII.*, in English, 32mo, 1s. 6d. Allman.

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Winning Souls the Grandest Work, and how to do it, 12mo, 1s. Hamilton.

Winslow (Mrs. M.), *Memoir, Life in Jesus*, new edition, 12mo, 5s. J. F. Shaw.

Woodman (Rev. W.) and "Iconoclast" Discussion, Is the Bible a Divine Revelation? post 8vo, 1s. Hodson and Son.

AN EVENING WITH A MEDIUM.

Sir.—The subject of Spirit-rapping has jumped into sudden prominence of late, and many of your contemporaries have discussed it very judiciously. I think, nevertheless, that I can add some experiences which will be interesting to your readers, and which will throw light upon a question which occupies more of the public attention than it deserves.

I was invited a few days ago to a *seance*, at which a rising Medium (not Mr. Forster) was to exhibit his powers. I had not much curiosity to witness the exhibition. I recollect, when I was a child of six years old, seeing with much gratification the performance of M. Alexandre, the ventriloquist, who, for the amusement of the junior portion of the com-

pany, as he said, condescended to do certain conjuring tricks with apples and oranges, preliminary to his legitimate ventriloquism. In later years I have seen Robin, the Wizard of the North, and other professors of prestidigitation; but alas! with much less pleasure. I cannot now help seeing through most of their tricks, and this takes away half the fun. I have read too the *Memoirs of Robert Houdin*, who, worse luck to him, lets out so many secrets of the art.

As the doings of mediums, according to the accounts I had heard of them, were not more extraordinary than those of professed wizards whom I had seen, I felt, I say, little curiosity to witness the alleged spirit-communications. However, I accepted the invitation and went.

The party consisted of four men. At eight o'clock, punctual to his time, the medium arrived. Previous to his appearance, we agreed not to interfere with his proceedings, or to endeavour to thwart him, being well assured that for our purpose, which was to arrive at a solution of the mystery, his success would be quite as instructive as his failure. And so, indeed, it turned out. After giving the medium a cigar, a few words of general conversation were exchanged, and we shortly proceeded to business. What the operator proposed was, that we should each write on slips of paper the names of some deceased persons, and also any questions which we wished to ask them; fold them up and enclose them in envelopes. We did this accordingly, the envelopes being the common ones fastened with gum. When this operation was performed, the medium, who had been sitting apart, drew his seat, a low arm-chair, to the edge of the table: it was a round pillar-table, and one of the claws or feet supporting the pillar projected in the direction of the medium's chair.

The four inquirers took their places round the table, so that one sat to the right, another to the left of the medium, myself and the fourth being about opposite to him. The various envelopes were now placed in a heap in the middle of the table, and the lamp, which had previously stood there, was removed at the medium's suggestion, and placed near the edge of the table, between him and the spectator on the right, and in such a position that it must have thrown a strong light upon the medium's lap. Previous to his arrival a small envelope, sealed with wax, containing a name, had been placed under the lamp. The removal of the lamp led to the disclosure of this, and I then mentioned that I had got several more names in similar envelopes ready prepared. The medium advised that these should be put aside for the present, and I put them all into my pocket. He next said in an off-hand way, "Perhaps you may as well write a few more names." We did so accordingly, and placed them folded up and in envelopes amidst the heap now in the middle of the table, and which the medium frequently touched, shuffling them together. I had written on one of these latter bits of paper the name of Rameses Meriamen, the great Egyptian Emperor of Asia. The medium requested his right-hand neighbour to write down the letters of the alphabet, and the numbers from one to ten, on a sheet of paper, and this was accordingly done. Raps now began to be heard. The medium requested one of us to touch the letters of the alphabet in succession, and shortly the letter R was indicated. "Have you any friend whose name begins with R?" said the medium. Nobody else answering, I admitted that I had written a name beginning with R. "Will you write down the person's second name, together with others, on a piece of paper?" I wrote several names, and on coming to Meriamen I involuntarily faltered slightly. I saw the medium's quick and restless eye was upon me, and felt that he marked my hesitation. I wrote several other names, and gave him the paper. More rapping took place, and presently the letter M was fixed upon. "Are your friend's initials R. M.?" "Yes," I replied, but I took care not to say what the names were. "Will you ask him a question?" "Were you ever in Asia?" I said. "No," was the decisive reply, of which I make a present to Sir G. C. Lewis; but I am obliged to add, that on further questioning Rameses told me with equal assurance that he had

been in *London*, and to divers other European localities. I then asked him where he died, but could get no satisfactory answer at all. I wrote down a number of places, Thebes and Cairo among them; but the spirit seemed to have forgotten where he died. It has struck me since that perhaps it was in the Red Sea, which I had omitted to write. The medium said there must be some mistake; and so we passed on to another spirit. I believe the next who replied was also one whose name I had written, and placed in a gummed envelope at the commencement of the *séance*. The letter T was announced. "Have you any spirit-friend whose name begins with T?" asked the medium. I replied, "Yes." Medium then scribbled two names on a sheet of paper, "Thomas C—." "Is that your friend's name?" It was right. I had addressed "To Thomas C—, in the shades below." The medium now wrote off rapidly, at the supposed suggestion of the spirit, "Why do you address me in the shades below?—I am in the upper world." He then asked if I would put any question to this spirit. I inquired, "Where did you die?" The medium now directed me to write the name of the place of my friend's death on a piece of paper, and then give this to another person present, to be incorporated by him in a list of names of places. These directions were followed, and on the names in the list being touched successively with a pen the right one was fixed upon. I was compelled to admit that the spirit was right; but I had now got a clear insight into the medium's tactics, and a few more experiments revealed every step in the trick. The explanation is shortly this:—The heap of envelopes which the medium had constantly shuffled had now been removed from the centre to the edge of the table, close to the operator's left hand. My envelope had been smuggled off, the gummed fastening, no doubt, moistened and opened, the paper extracted and transferred to the medium's lap, upon which, as I have before noticed, the lamp threw a strong light. The medium's eyes were in constant motion, watching his company, but I observed that they sometimes were bent intently on his lap. His hands, too, were in perpetual motion, and one was sometimes employed to shade his eyes. It was obvious, then, that he had contrived to read what I had written on the paper. As I had not written the name of the place of death, it was necessary to arrive at that by a roundabout way. I was first to write it down, and then hand it to a friend to be incorporated. Nothing easier, therefore, than for the medium to watch the second writer, count the number of names as he wrote them down, and notice when he referred to my paper to copy the name I had written. That this process really took place I verified shortly after in another instance. But several other little indications were resorted to, in order to guard against mistake. The medium took the list in his hands, and professed to verify it by the rappings (which were made continually); in reality, I suppose he took into consideration the likelihood of the place which he had first fixed on being the right one. For instance, in the case in question I had written an exceedingly short name; the medium probably watched my hand and observed this, and consequently was confirmed in his first shot, by finding that the name upon which he had pitched was, in fact, the shortest in the list.

I was now asked whether I would address any more questions to my spirit-friend, but I thought this unnecessary. The medium did not seem well satisfied with the easy indifference with which the spirit-manifestations were received, and observed in a plaintive tone, "In America they cherish these intimations."

The reader will ask, How was the first name, or rather its initials, so quickly arrived at? Observe: this was one of the last names written; the gum of the envelope, therefore, could have been hardly dry (indeed, I am not perfectly certain that this name was enclosed in an envelope at all). It was therefore the first which the medium secreted and read, but he was puzzled by the strange names, and therefore ventured upon no more than the initials. The other envelopes probably required moistening a little before they could be opened. In some instances which followed, the medium contrived to reintroduce the slip and gum up the envelope, and in such cases

he placed the envelope on the table and bid one of us open it. In other cases where he had not been able to do this, and had perhaps slightly torn the envelope, he took care to open it himself, tearing it up rather briskly, and adroitly appearing to produce the slip from it. All these proceedings I watched and registered with minuteness, but I have not room to describe every detail.

I have now related some of the successes of the evening; but as the *séance* continued, matters did not go on quite so well; and I may mention summarily, as the total result of the answers extracted by means similar to those described, that rather more than half were total failures. Not one of the envelopes which had been previously prepared and sealed with wax ever came to anything. The medium allowed them to repose in my pocket. One of these was indeed produced and placed on the table, but no information was given by any spirit as to its contents. I was requested to open it and read the name contained. I opened it and found a blank, the name having been written in lemon-juice. I was unable therefore to read it, and passed it to my next neighbour, who, from a secret mark on the envelope, ascertained what the name was, but did not pronounce it. The medium saw all this proceeding, and promptly said that the reason why the spirit could not read this name was, because it was written in some foreign or unusual language. I explained what the fact really was; and the medium said that of course a spirit could not be expected to read a name written in invisible ink. Had a name been written on this piece of paper in ordinary ink, I should doubtless have been asked to write it down; and an attempt would have been made to arrive at it by other methods. Such a device was, in fact, resorted to in one other case of a previously prepared envelope; and by this means, surely enough, the right name was pitched upon. It was that of a certain old parish priest, whose monumental brass remains in a church in Cambridgeshire. This old gentleman was asked when he died, and the spirit promptly answered 1860. This not being satisfactory, the several centuries from 1100 to 1800 were written down, at the suggestion of the inquirer, and the medium immediately took the hint, and perceived that the individual in question had not died in the nineteenth century. The centuries were touched successively with a pen, and 1300 was pitched upon. Then the tens were written down in a similar way, and 70 was pitched upon; lastly, the units were written, and 6 was pitched upon. This brought the date of our spirit's death to 1376, which was probably about a century wrong. This spirit was then asked where he was buried, and by a process of writing down a number of names of places, and touching them in succession, the real place was actually hit. He was then asked whether he ever founded a chantry. Immediate reply by rapping, "Yes." "In what diocese?" A number of dioceses were now written down by the inquirer, and he was directed to touch them with a pen in succession. Being now pretty well up in the method of divination, I watched my friend's hand as he touched the names. At one of them he exhibited a certain degree of indecision, and I inwardly predicted that this would be the one named by the spirit. It was so, but happened to be wrong; and though several other attempts were made, the right diocese was never fixed upon.

Another of my spirit friends was announced, whose name I had written and enclosed in a gummed envelope, and which was supposed by the medium to be contained in a certain envelope that lay on the table and which I was invited to open. I perceived that it was the wrong one, for it happened to be sealed with wax, the seal, however, being turned towards the table. I said there was a mistake, and the medium at once saw his blunder, snatched the envelope from the table, and replaced it by another which he picked up from the floor. This I opened; it was the right one, and contained the name announced. I asked this friend where he died. I was directed, as before, to write a list of names, and this time took care to write the real name quickly and unhesitatingly. After writing three names, I hesitated a moment to think of a fourth, which, when

I had written, the medium stopped me and said, "That will do; you have written the name." The one pitched on was the fourth. This being wrong, the medium said there was some confusion or mistake, and so we passed on to new experiments.

I might go on detailing similar performances, but it would occupy too much space. Sundry variations were made in the manner of ultimately announcing the names—as by tearing up a list of names, and rolling up each name in a little crumpled scroll by itself, and then finding out the right one—by showing the name written in red letters on the medium's arm or hand, and the like. This kind of superfluous matter, which sometimes creates more surprise than the really difficult part of the trick, is familiar to all professors of legerdemain. As for the rapping, the proximity of the medium's boot to the claw of the table, from which direction the sound clearly came, would be sufficient to explain it; but whether it was done by rapping the table with the toe, or by cracking the joints of the toes, it is hardly worth while to speculate. The difference between the performances of a medium and those of a common prestidigitator, no doubt lies much in this,—that the former gets a greater power over the faculties of his company by inspiring them with awe and superstitious wonder. The imperturbable cheerfulness with which our little circle received the spirit manifestations interfered, I am afraid, in some degree with the success of the operator. Still he exhibited a good deal of dexterity, and made a number of good hits. To those who do not understand how these things are done, I may say that a large part of the conjuror's art lies in distracting your attention at the moment when he is engaged upon the essential part of the trick. For instance, towards the close of the *séance*, my next neighbour wrote down the name of some person on a slip of paper, doubled it up, and twisted it like a note. Two of the company had now withdrawn from the table, and were engaged near the fire. I and the fourth remained at the table. The medium took the folded paper, seemed to throw it behind him on the floor, and then awaited the rapping of the spirit. It was necessary now to get our two sets of eyes withdrawn from his proceedings. He therefore coolly asked the writer of the name to write a list of Christian names down a page of foolscap paper, while I was to fill a similar page with surnames. We both began to write; but I took care to keep my eyes on the medium, and saw him for about half a minute intently scrutinizing something in his lap. What it was I will not profess to say; but shortly afterwards he said that we need write no more, that "his guardian spirit" would give him the information required; and he then wrote or pronounced the names which had been written. This, I believe, terminated the *séance*.

I have endeavoured to describe very shortly some of the principal features of this performance. I may have mixed up some of the details, it being difficult to carry each experiment clearly in the memory. But I have not willingly misrepresented anything. Much of the success of mediums, and the wonderful stories that are told of them, no doubt arises from the spectators at the end of the *séance* retaining only a confused view of all the facts. Those who wish to see through the trick, should keep their minds fixed upon every step of the process, and not lose a single item. Many facts will, indeed, be non-essential; these can be separated afterwards. Let your eyes be as active as those of the medium, and never leave him unwatched a moment. Don't be shaken when you are told that a spirit is hovering above you, waiting to be questioned; and don't look over your shoulder when you are told there is a spirit behind your back. Let the medium have his own way, and do what he tells you. Get into the habit, if you have it not already, of resolutely connecting effects with causes. By following these directions you will find, I have no doubt, any medium become very transparent. One may devise a number of tests and difficulties; but these will prevent your seeing the *modus operandi*. The spirits will refuse to act, and you will learn nothing.

I may add, that on this occasion we did not "have a hand," neither was the table lifted bodily up to the ceiling, without any one standing near,

as I am told frequently happens in spirit circles. I shall not speculate on what I have not seen; what I did see the other evening I hope I have succeeded in making tolerably clear.

Yours,
X. Y.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

ALEXANDRIA, March.

Few important undertakings have, to use new-fangled phrase, been more "ventilated" by active and even acrimonious discussion than that of the Suez Canal. As, however, the question continues to be contested with as much tenacity as at first, it may be not uninteresting to your readers to receive a brief narrative of the present state of the canal between Raz el Wadi and Port Said, the northern or Mediterranean extremity, written by an eye-witness in no way personally interested in the undertaking.

I accompanied M. de Lesseps on his tour of inspection in the Isthmus; starting from Alexandria by the morning train, February 21, 1862, with him and Dr. Aubert Laroche, the inspecting physician of the company. We took a special train at Kafzayat, and reached Zagazig at four p.m. This is an important station, where the Company have constructed a lock on the El Wadi Canal, made by Mehemet Ali, opening into a canal which was the ancient Tanitic branch of the Nile. We started in a small carriage with pair of very bad horses for Tel el Kabir, driving along the dike of the Canal, till we arrived at the estate of El Wadi, bought some months ago by the Company from the Viceroy. If that fine property had passed into other hands, it might have been a great source of annoyance and inconvenience to the Company, as it commands the feeding canals from the Nile to the fresh-water canal now dug to Lake Timsah. We reached Tel el Kabir, the palace of El Wadi, at eight in the evening, after a drive of twelve miles; our luggage and servants followed in a small covered boat up the canal. Next morning the boat started at five, and we left on horseback two hours after, crossing the desert to Raz el Wadi, which we reached at ten, a station ten miles and a half distant.

The fresh-water canal is twenty-two feet wide and four feet deep; it had been opened only twenty-two days when we passed along it, and the banks were as clean and unbroken as if the water had been just let in, although the traffic along it has already been very great in conveying materials for the works. We passed by the stations of Maxama and Ramses, established on the site of the ancient city of that name, and where there still is a stone idol with three heads and six arms, of superhuman dimensions. At Timsah we mounted, to ride along the line of works of the great maritime canal to El Gisr, where we slept. This is a perfect town in the centre of the desert, with very extensive storehouses, where almost anything may be purchased at ten per cent. above its original price,—a pretty little church,—pleasant-looking houses, and an Arab mosque and village. Lake Timsah is to be a great inland port, and will require but little deepening, as the bed is already in some places thirty feet deep, and it is thirty feet below the level of the Mediterranean.

It was a truly fine sight to see twenty thousand Arabs at work on one spot, cutting the eight miles yet remaining to join the Mediterranean with Lake Timsah. They are working hard in order to finish by July 15 next, the Viceroy's *sûte-day*. He is having a pretty little chalet built close to the works, and means to witness the sea-water rush into the basin of Lake Timsah. This will be a grand sight, the water falling ten feet from the bed of the canal into the lake. The sea canal is to be a hundred and eighty-nine feet broad, and the depth varying from twenty-eight feet to six, according to the different levels of the ground.

The idea of forced labour is entirely erroneous: each labourer gets forty centimes for every cubic mètre dug and carried up the bank; the lesser sheiks are paid as two men, the more powerful as four. We met five hundred of them having just been paid

returning to their villages. I was told that they generally take away between fifteen and twenty francs at the end of the month; they will not stay longer than that period, as they have not their families with them, but go back to their homes for a month, and then return again. The mudirs and governors all complain that they can get no men for the Government works; the men prefer the Company's employ, as they get pay and don't get beaten, whereas the Government gives no money, the mere shadow of food, and the substantial reality of the stick. Any European in M. de Lesseps' employ who strikes an Arab is instantly dismissed. The men begin to work at daylight, and work till eleven o'clock, when they eat and sleep till two, and work again till sunset. Eight thousand of the twenty thousand men come from the upper country between Philae and Khartoum. Strange to say, they are a much finer race of men, and much better and quicker workers, than the fellahs of Lower Egypt. There is far more animation about the works where the black men are employed; they run up and down the banks, which in some places are nearly completed, singing and shouting at the top of their voices. In some places the canal is already twenty feet deep.

The Arabs were excessively amazed when the Nile water actually arrived in the centre of the Desert at Lake Timsah; one old Bedouin sheik, much attached to M. de Lesseps, and who has been very useful from the commencement of the undertaking, knelt down in the sand on the bank, drank some water, poured some over his head, and fell to praising Allah for the great wonder; beseeching Him to grant many years of life to the Abou el Toura (Father of the Canal).

We arrived at the head engineer's house at El Gisr at half-past five, after a ride of about five miles. Next morning, February 23rd, we started at noon in a carriage, holding six, and drawn by six dromedaries, harnessed two to the pole, then three, and one in front to direct and lead. They are capital draught animals, and will not cease pulling till they drop down dead, if attached to a very heavy weight. We went at a good pace where the ground was firm, but in loose sand the wheels, though broad, sank deep, and retarded us. After the first novelty of the thing was over, wishing to try a ride, I mounted a spare one; at first it seemed a great height, and I had to hold on tight as the dromedary rose up or knelt down, during which operation the animal roared violently; but I soon became used to it; the pace is delightful, so easy and fast; there is no trouble in guiding the creature, a tap on either side of the neck suffices.

We reached El Terdane, a station six miles from El Gisr, at half-past one, and embarked in a small covered boat, on the salt-water canal, which was begun from Kantara, twenty-two miles distant, six months ago, and has been opened since the end of November. The canal is as yet but small, 39 feet wide and 6 feet deep; the Company hurried its completion, for the economy of water carriage. Formerly the transport of a ton cost them a hundred and thirty francs, it now costs seven francs.

I was much struck with the way in which the banks held, both in the fresh and salt water canals, fully expecting to see them crumble away directly there was any wash up against them. But we ran the point of our boat several times into the bank, and found it quite hard and firm, although in some places, on one side, it is quite perpendicular.

Four Arabs towed us the twenty-two miles to Kantara, a pretty little village on the high road to Syria. Between six and eight hundred camels pass daily over the temporary bridge made there across the canal. There is capital stone close by, which will be quarried and taken to Port Said, as soon as the passage through Lake Mengaleh is clearer; the banks of the canal were damaged in that part by the late high Nile, and the mud has much choked it for some miles.

Sea fish have been caught at Kantara, and it is pretty to see the gulls dipping and plunging close to the boats. The air of the Desert is wonderful,—so bright, light, and healthy. At all the chief stations there are hospitals, beautifully arranged and kept, with a doctor's house attached, and doctor, but no patients. The average mortality in Europe is, I

believe, about four or five per cent.; here it has been one in 1000.

We started from Kantara at five in the morning, February 24th, in the same small boat, to go to Port Said. The canal at this part is at most twenty-two feet wide and four deep. Up to within a few miles of Raz el Eche we proceeded very well, as the water of the lake has dried up on each side; but further on, the extraordinary high Nile of this winter has washed away a great part of the embankments which were made through Lake Menzaleh, and the mud has penetrated far into the canal; but the Company have powerful drags in play, which are already widening and deepening the bed. They have also some hundred men at work throwing up the parallel bank of the canal, and preparing for the drags, which will thus be enabled to work alongside the existing *rigole*, leaving a narrow strip of earth between the two streams of water, which would then be rapidly removed by the drags.

We reached Raz el Eche at four p.m., a small encampment literally in the centre of water. The dry land on which the engineers live is only about a hundred and ten yards in circumference; however, they all seemed very happy and contented. From Raz el Eche our progress was slow, in consequence of the mud and the small amount of water in the lake, owing to the wind being northerly and driving a mass of water to the other end of the lake, which is a hundred and fifty miles in circumference. The wind has a wonderful effect here; three feet of water disappear in a few hours from one end, and are as quickly driven back.

We reached Port Said at seven o'clock, very tired, cramped, and hungry; and I was delighted to find myself in the comfortable and pretty chalet-like house of M. de Laroche, the superintendent at Port Said. It is most fatiguing to sit in a small boat for fourteen hours without any change of position, or alteration in the dreary monotony of Egyptian scenery.

All the next day we spent at Port Said, with which place I was delighted, it is so animated and bright,—ships lying off the shore unloading timber from the Danube, machinery from England and France, and stone for the pier from the quarries of Mex, a village near Alexandria. Great ingenuity is displayed in making the ground for the town to be built on. It was a narrow strip of land between the Mediterranean and Lake Menzaleh, constantly liable to be flooded by one or the other; now there are numerous magazines and workshops, machinery in full activity, houses built or building, drags in course of erection or already at work in the small harbours; and the Cadi, who has just made a new census, gives the number of inhabitants as four thousand two hundred souls, including children.

I cannot, of course, pretend to give any opinion upon the much-mooted question of the pier, and can only relate what I saw. It extends a quarter of a mile into the sea, with two lines of tramway half a mile from the shore; a small portion of the pier has been built, and is used as a place to unload the stone, which enables the men to work inland, and fill up the vacant quarter of a mile. The great difficulty was the shallowness of the water, which compelled the transhipment of every block of stone into a small boat to be conveyed to shore.

I had been told that the sand at Port Said was shifting, and that the piles and blocks of stone used in building the pier would sink. This is untrue; not one of the blocks has moved since they were first placed, and the seaweed and barnacles are growing on them, which would not be the case if they sank perpetually deeper into the sand. On the beach, the sand is curiously firm to walk upon, and of a beautiful silvery colour quite sparkling in the sun. The canal has deepened at the mouth several feet since the pier has been built; and the engineers expect that the current which sets in from the north-west and brings sand with it will now, finding an obstacle opposed to its progress, take an oblique direction, and not interfere with their works.

We started from Port Said at six o'clock on the morning of the 26th in a lake boat, built wide in front and running to a sharp point in the stern; the cabin was in front, which gave me the idea that we were sailing backwards. The Lake Menzaleh swarms with fish of every kind. I was told

grey mullet attained the length of five feet. We saw birds in flocks of thousands, flamingoes, pelicans, herons, and wild fowl of all kinds. It is a beautiful sight to see the flamingoes stretch out their great rose-coloured wings as you approach, and fly lazily a short distance out of your way.

We reached Damietta at five in the afternoon. There the Company have large storehouses, and a large quantity of land which they bought from the Viceroy; they run a small steamer twice a week on the Nile up to Samanoud and back, which more than pays its expenses, as it takes passengers. We started in this steamer at twelve the next day, with forty passengers. At ten at night, a few miles beyond Mitercholy, the fireman came and declared he could not go on working his machinery without danger of blowing up. The fires were put out, and we dropped down stream again, till we met some of the ordinary Nile boats. With some difficulty we found six men to tow our party, consisting of six, including servants, to Mansoura. We spent the whole night in the small boat,—very damp and cold it was,—and only reached Mansoura at one p.m. next day. M. de Lesseps and myself were weary of the boat, and wanted to make sure of reaching Alexandria that night; so after waiting two hours we got two of the Governor's horses, and with a little stumbling and falling on the part of our steeds, unaccustomed to such rapid movements, we reached Samanoud, fifteen miles distant, in less than an hour; leaving our companions to follow in a small boat, towed by as many men as a Government Cawass (policeman) could get. We reached Samanoud at four, had something to eat in a temporary tent, where the superintendent of the Company's stores lodges till his house is built, and started by special train at half-past six, the rest of our party fortunately just arriving in time to jump into the carriage. We joined the local train at Kafz Zayat, reached Alexandria at half-past twelve; and thus ended one of the most amusing and interesting week's excursions I ever made.

J. R.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE ALBERT MEMORIAL.

In order to enable the public to form an opinion about the wisdom of making the proposed obelisk of a single block of granite, or, on the other hand, of building it up by means of several blocks, it would be as well if our engineers would answer a few questions which naturally arise on the subject. 1st. What is the height of the trees and buildings in the neighbourhood of the site proposed for the memorial, and from what spots will it be seen, and how far will it be a commanding object, from Highgate, Hampstead, and Norwood? 2nd. When brought by sea into the river Thames, at what wharf can it be most easily landed; by what route is it to be taken into the park; and can it be done without removing the houses at the corners of the streets? 3rd. If the engineers have a given sum of money at their disposal, how lofty an obelisk could they set up for us, if allowed to build it with a number of cubic blocks of about ten feet in measurement, and how much less if it is to be of a single block? 4th. If the obelisk were built of several blocks, how far will the joints be made invisible? If these questions were answered it would perhaps be found that the cost of moving a single block of a hundred feet in length will be so great, that in its place, and for the same money, we might have one equally beautiful of two or three times the height if made of several stones,—one which, like the dome of St. Paul's, might be seen from every hill round London.

JOSEPH BONOMI.

Sir John Soane's Museum, 20th March, 1862.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood has just given a very important decision affecting the transfer of copyright. Messrs. Hall and Virtue, having pur-

chased the "copyright and sole right of sale for four years" of *A Boy's Adventures in Australia* from Mr. William Howitt, have successfully maintained, against Mr. Howitt, their right to carry on beyond the time thus specified the sale of all copies lawfully printed before its expiration. Though the Vice-Chancellor has in this instance decided in favour of the publisher, we gather from his decision the material inference, that the Court would protect an author from fraudulent over-printing. No such suspicion attached to Messrs. Hall and Virtue, who as the Vice-Chancellor said, "had acted quite *bona fide*, and were making a legitimate use of their contract." It may be noticed, that what the publishers purchased was "the sole right of sale" for four years, which, while it would preclude Mr. Howitt himself or any other person from selling the book during that time, would not prevent them selling copies, lawfully printed, after that time had expired, though the right of sale would no longer be *sole*.

We are informed that the Ode to which we alluded last week as in preparation by the Laureate, is written, but that although the death of the Prince Consort is alluded to, it does not embody any of the lines published in the dedication attached to the new edition of the *Idylls of the King*, all the matter being new.

The Zoological Society of London are daily expecting a new and brilliant addition to their collection in the shape of a pair of living Birds of Paradise (*Paradisea papuana*) from New Guinea. They have been obtained for the Society by Mr. A. R. Wallace, the well-known zoological collector, who is now on his way home to England after spending the last seven years in the investigation of the Natural History of the different islands of the Indian Archipelago. A telegram has been received from Mr. Wallace announcing his arrival at Malta with the Paradise-birds in good health. But one previous instance is known of a Paradise-bird having been brought alive to Europe. This individual was the property of the late Princess Augusta, and died at Windsor about forty years ago.

A new poetical tale, to be entitled *Claudine*, by the author of *Ruins of Many Lands*, is announced as about to be commenced in the April Number of the *New Monthly Magazine*.

We understand that Professor Cairnes, of Queen's College, Galway, has in the press a work entitled *The Slave Power*, its character, career, and probable designs: being an attempt to explain the real issues involved in the American contest.

We learn that the trustees of the British Museum have made arrangements for opening that Institution freely to all visitors as late as eight o'clock in the evening during the next summer, so as to enable the numerous thousands who will visit the great International Exhibition to view also the permanent treasures in Great Russell Street. The libraries will be thrown open for inspection as well as the splendid new Reading-Room; the latter, however, not until after five o'clock, when it will be closed to its usual visitors, the "Readers." This will of course cause some inconvenience, but the arrangement seems indispensable to enable our foreign visitors to view at their leisure this unique temple of iron and glass architecture, planned by the genius of the present principal Librarian.

Joseph Christian Baron Zedlitz has just died at Vienna, at the age of seventy-two. He entered the Austrian army early in life, and distinguished himself in the wars with Napoleon. He afterwards entered the civil service, and was private secretary to Prince Metternich. His chief reputation, however, rests upon his lyrical and dramatic works, and he ranks as one of the principal poets of Austria. Two of his most celebrated and popular compositions are his *Todten Kränzer*, and his famous ballad, *Die Nächtliche Heerschau*. He was also an active correspondent of the Augsburg *Allgemeine Zeitung*, in the interest of the Cabinet of Vienna.

Halevy, one of the most distinguished French composers of the present day, died at Paris on the 17th of March, aged sixty-three. He expired, sitting in his armchair, without pain. Halevy was born in Paris, of Jewish parents, and finished his musical

education in Italy. Of the numerous operas he has written, *La Juive* is the most important, and has had the greatest success. Halevy is deficient in originality, but this is partly compensated by his scientific knowledge and the versatility of his genius. In 1833, he succeeded Fetis as Professor of Composition in the Conservatoire; and in 1836 he became a member of the Académie and the Institut. A marble bust of Halevy has been ordered by the Minister of State, to be placed in the Great Hall of the Institut, between those of Mehul and Grétry.

The literature and religion of the Druses have long been puzzles to Western scholars. From a recent discovery, however, it is now to be hoped that some light will be thrown upon these vexed questions. During Fuad Pasha's mission to Syria, a very ancient work in the Arab language, relating to the religion of the Druses, was found at Pilaster, a large village near Baalbek. Major Chain-Bey, one of the Pasha's aides-de-camp, has been requested to translate the work into the Turkish language.

With reference to our notice in last week's issue of Mr. Thackeray's rumoured retirement from the editorial chair of the *Cornhill Magazine*, we now learn that this step on his part is owing to the advice of his medical advisers. We are also informed that it is very probable Mr. Wilkie Collins will succeed Mr. Thackeray in his capacity as editor of the *Cornhill Magazine*.

The *Morning Chronicle*, one of the oldest daily newspapers in London, has ceased to exist. It was started in 1769 by William Woodfall, one of the family so well known in connection with the famous *Junius's Letters*. For a long period it took the lead of the other journals, and represented the Whig party and Whig politics with great ability and fidelity. Amongst the writers who have been engaged upon it, from the time when James Perry took it in hand a generation ago, we may mention Dr. Black, Lord Brougham, Campbell the poet, Hazlitt, James Mill, Charles Dickens—who, as everybody knows, was a reporter in the gallery for this paper,—Lord Campbell, Sidney Herbert, Mounckton Milnes, Mr. Shirley Brooks, the late Angus Reoch, and Mr. Payne Collier.

A most curious book-sale has recently terminated in Paris. It will be remembered that M. Pelletan, the well-known journalist, was fined 3,000 francs for an article signed by him that appeared in the *Courier du Dimanche*. M. Pelletan refused to go on with his appeal against the decision of the Correctional Court. He was carried to prison; his library was sent to the auction rooms of the Salle Sylvestre, and there put up for sale, to raise funds wherewith to pay the fine. The catalogue was a long one, and contained many rare and valuable books; but the friends of M. Pelletan had so arranged matters that the least valuable works were first put up for sale, and these brought such extravagantly high prices, in proportion to their original cost, that the more valuable tomes still remain in M. Pelletan's possession. It was a manoeuvre on the part of his friends to outwit the Government, who would have objected to a subscription and a popular demonstration. It had been stated that the Procureur Impérial, hearing what was arranged to take place at this mock-auction, sent for the gentleman in whose hands the management of the sale was placed, and reminded him that it was illegal to hold such a sale, and that it would be unsafe for the friends of the prisoner to put up, as he had heard they intended to do, the first book for 3000 francs. The sale was proceeded with; and, mindful of the Procureur's hint, the first book, a work by M. Morlot, worth only a few sous, was knocked down at 300 francs. An old unrecognized edition of Voltaire's works, worth actually about 60 francs, produced 800 francs. *La Nouvelle Héloïse*, the *Savoyard Vicar*, *Emile*, and another work of small value, the whole in two volumes, brought 500 francs; they cost at first hand 10 francs. Books with an autograph, or a few pencil scratches from the hand of M. Pelletan, were knocked down to delighted purchasers at prices which would sober the maddest bibliomania. To prevent the authorities from noticing a too significant meaning in these

purchases, the people in charge of the auction so arranged the total of the sale that it fell within a few centimes of the 3000 francs required to pay the fine. The whole affair may be regarded as an evidence of the determined manner in which the literary men of Paris have made up their minds to withstand all encroachments upon their professional rights.

A remarkable collection of books and tracts relating to America is now being sold by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson, Leicester Square. It is, we understand, the property of Mr. Henry Stevens, the agent for the Smithsonian Institution in this country.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

Monday, March 4.—Lord Ashburton, President, in the chair.

Lord Ebury, Rear-Admiral Charles Eden, C.B., Mr. Alderman Finnis, Lieut.-Colonel W. W. H. Greathead, C.B., Lieutenant E. Hope Verney, R.N., Colonel C. P. Beauchamp Walker, C.B., John Bowie, William Caward, Archibald Hamilton, J. Sargood, John Todd, F. Fox Tuckett, and E. Bean Underhill, Esqrs., were elected Fellows.

Mr. Galton read a paper, by Lieutenant Oliver, R.A., giving a description of his travels to the West of Canton.

The President, in introducing Dr. Barton, the author of the next paper, observed that it was of great geographical interest, inasmuch as it was an account of the expedition which, under our Associates, Colonel Sarel, Captain Blakiston, and Dr. Barton, endeavoured to ascend the Yang-tse-Kiang, and to pass by Thibet into India, through a portion of country altogether unknown to Europeans. They were prevented accomplishing their intended journey by the jealousy of Chinese officials and the anarchy which prevailed in the country. The paper, however, gave an account of the great province of Sechuan, containing from fifteen to twenty millions of inhabitants, on which no European foot had ever trodden, excepting that of the Jesuits.

After the reading of Dr. Barton's paper, the President said it would be desirable to have more information respecting the origin of the Taeping rebellion, and the causes of the weakness of the Government in dealing with the existing anarchy, and more information respecting the Jesuits' settlements in the interior. All our knowledge of the interior came from the Jesuits. It was wonderful how much they had achieved there; and had it not been for the quarrel between the Jansenists and Jesuits at Rome, he believed China would have been almost, if not altogether, Christianized.

Mr. Consul Parkes, who was most warmly received by the crowded assembly, said it was with no ordinary feelings of emotion that he had seen Dr. Barton and his companions push off in their little junk from the squadron under Admiral Hope, on their expedition up the Yang-tse-Kiang; and he was exceedingly happy to be able to welcome them back in England on their return from such an interesting voyage. In this part of the world we might think little of a tour of eighteen hundred miles; but in China it was a great feat to accomplish over new ground, especially when it was remembered that, until the last Treaty, foreigners were prohibited from going more than twenty or thirty miles into the interior. Although some disappointment might be felt at the party not being able to push on to India, yet a great service had been rendered to commerce and science by their success in traversing the whole length of the river, and ascertaining that it was navigable as far as Pingshan. In future years the Yang-tse-Kiang would be one of the greatest arteries of our commerce with China. With respect to the condition of the country at the present moment, whole provinces had been laid desolate by the rebels, and cities which a few years ago contained an immense population, and were the entrepôts of enormous commerce, were now almost extinct, or in ruins. The rebellion first broke out in 1849 in one of the most remote and rudest provinces of the Em-

pire. There it festered for three or four years, until, having acquired sufficient strength to undertake greater enterprises, the rebels made their way down to the Yang-tse-Kiang; and thence along its course, meeting with nothing to impede their progress, until they reached Nankin, which they seized, and fixed upon as their headquarters. From this point they overran the neighbouring provinces, desolating a region sixty thousand square miles in extent, and containing a population of seventy million souls; and one of these provinces they had recently abandoned, after having exhausted all its resources. At present they did not hold more than sixty or seventy miles of the country bordering the Yang-tse-Kiang; and, not possessing any flotilla, they could not, fortunately, impede the navigation of the river. As a proof of the prospective value of that river to commerce, he might mention that, during eight months of last year, a hundred and fifty-two foreign vessels passed up from Shanghai to Hankow, and a hundred and seventy junks in foreign employ; and it was estimated that trade to the extent of £10,000,000 sterling would be done there during the present year. Reverting to the rebellion, he attributed its gigantic proportions to the wide-spread discontent arising from the pressure of population upon production, conjoined with the absence of poor-laws and the total inefficiency of the police: it was, therefore, not difficult for any bold, unscrupulous man to gather around him hundreds and thousands ready to run the gauntlet through the finest provinces in the empire. The Government, on the other hand, did very little to protect their own people. They had been accustomed to rule by moral suasion, exhibited in the form of proclamations issued on large sheets of paper, daubed over with red ink, and commanding the people to "respect this!" "tremble!" "honour!" and "obey!" which, so long as there were no troubles, might do very well. It was certainly very discreditable to the Government that the rebels should have been able to hold their position so long in the very heart of the Empire. Unfortunately, the Government had for some years been in the hands of a petty clique of inert and inefficient Mandarins, and the paralysis which prevailed at Pekin had spread throughout the Empire. Another circumstance to be remembered was the total absence of national feeling and national spirit among the Chinese, so that what took place in one province gave very little concern to those who lived in the adjoining one; the consequence was that insurrection was common in many parts. He remembered a memorial to the Emperor some years ago, in which it was stated that there were ten rebellions going on in different parts of the Empire at the same time. China, in fact, had always been more or less in a state of internal disorder; and had it not been for the vigour, though rude of its kind, introduced by the invasion of the Manchoo Tartars two hundred and twenty years ago, he had no doubt the country would have been broken up before this. The country was as ripe now for invasion as then; but he trusted we should see nothing of the kind; for China in the meantime had become differently situated, owing to the relations which had been opened up with the Western nations.

Adverting to the extensive cultivation of the poppy, which Dr. Barton witnessed, Mr. Parkes remarked upon this, that it was well known the Chinese were perfectly acquainted with the use of opium long before we took it to them, and that they had been in the habit of growing it largely for their own consumption. The quantity imported from India bore but a very small proportion to the quantity raised in China; but it was preferred to the native production on account of its superior quality, just as an Englishman preferred French brandy to brandy of British manufacture. In reply to a question from the President, Mr. Parkes said, as far as words went, the present Government of China gave some hope of improvement; but they had come into power so recently, that it was scarcely fair to judge of them, their opportunity of doing any good had been so limited. If earnestness of wish and a desire to be informed of the true state of affairs, was any proof of a will to work out reforms, Prince Kung, in his communications with our minister, Mr. Bruce, had shown that disposition. With

reference to the Jesuit missionaries, too much could not be said in their favour for their zeal and self-denial. In comparing their success with that of Protestant missionaries, it should, however, be borne in mind that the Roman Catholics established themselves in China in the sixteenth century, and that for a long period they were in Court favour at Pekin, and consequently were most powerfully aided in making converts. Protestants, on the contrary, were, until the present Treaty, confined to districts within thirty or forty miles of the ports; and though their zeal might have carried them into the interior, it was contingent upon their being brought back by the officials to our Consuls for punishment. At the same time there was more than enough work for them at the ports; and, now that the country had been thrown open, we should no doubt see them penetrating into the interior as far as their Romish brethren had gone. He had that day received a letter from Dr. Lockhart at Pekin, who stated that he was visited by numbers of the best classes for professional advice. This, in itself, was a satisfactory indication of the readiness of the people to put aside their prejudices and accept assistance from foreigners. In the matter of hospitals, Mr. Parker thought they would be found a most efficient instrumental in the hands of Protestant missionaries, and said it was a point to which missionary societies ought to give their attention.

Captain Blakiston, R.A., F.R.G.S., one of Dr. Barton's companions in the exploration of the Yang-tse-Kiang, briefly addressed the meeting.

In answer to a question of the President, he said the exploring party found the accounts given by MM. Hue and Gabet in their work to be perfectly true.

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX AND SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.

March 18.—Mr. A. White, F.L.S., in the chair. Mr. H. W. King, Medieval Secretary of the Essex Archaeological Society, gave a report of the discovery of a Roman leaden coffin, containing the skeleton of a female imbedded in lime, at Camden Gardens, Bethnal Green. He observed that the Societies were solely indebted to Mr. H. W. Rolfe, of Punderson Place, Bethnal Green, for the preservation of this interesting relic of antiquity from the melting furnace to which it was to have been consigned. Mr. King gave a minute description of the coffin and its ornamentation, which in some respects differed from that usually found on Roman coffins. He had inspected it in company with Mr. Rolfe, and exhibited several drawings of it made by the latter gentleman; the dimensions given were—length, 5 ft. 10 in.; breadth at the head, 1 ft. 4 in.; at the foot, 1 ft. 2 in.; depth, about 10 inches. In the course of his remarks, Mr. King referred to an article in Mr. Roach Smith's *Collectanea Antiqua*, vol. iii., for a description and illustration of various similar Roman interments discovered in this country and on the continent.

Mr. Charles Baily, F.S.A., made some observations on the Norman Porch of the Temple Church, and its proposed restoration, referring to many architectural features in the Round Church, cloisters, and adjacent portions of the building which had been much elucidated by the recent removal of some buildings for public improvement in Middle Temple Lane, as an interesting result of these alterations at the Temple. Mr. Baily gave an account of the discovery of the foundations of the lower chamber of the ancient Chapel of St. Anne, a two-story building, formerly attached to the south side of the Church. In a letter that was read to the meeting, free permission had been kindly granted by the Benchers to all members of the Society desirous of visiting the excavations.

Mr. Bassett Smith, F.G.S., followed with some lengthened remarks on the same subject, in the course of which he described the origin of the Temple, giving many important facts connected with the history of the Knights Templars. He regarded the edifice more in the light of a military establishment than a monastery, and considered that it would be well for this to be borne in mind, as the researches of the antiquary might thereby be materially assisted. The Templars were not monks, but a band of

knights, organized for the defence of the Sepulchre at Jerusalem, the building being the residence of the High Templar, whose duty it was to collect men and money to send to the Holy Land. Mr. Smith concluded with some interesting observations on the architectural peculiarities of the Church and the restorations of Sir Christopher Wren.

STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

March 18th.—James Heywood, Esq., Vice-President, in the chair.

D. Biden and Henry Thomson, Esqrs., and Dr. Washbourne, were elected Fellows.

Mr. W. G. Lumley read a paper, entitled, "Observations on the Statistics of Illegitimacy." He began by observing that much had been said and written, both by foreign and native writers, with regard to the supposed large amount of illegitimacy in the country. The object of his paper had been to test the truth of these suppositions, and he was happy to state that the result of his inquiries was satisfactory. He found that the amount of illegitimacy in England was much below the general estimate, and that we hold a high position in this respect, as compared with other countries. Taking first the statistics of illegitimacy in England generally, he found that between the years 1841 and 1859 the percentage of illegitimate births had fluctuated between the ratio 6 and 7 with almost incredible uniformity. In 1841, the percentage was 6·37; in 1852 it was 6·8; and in 1859 it had decreased to 6·5. There are no means of ascertaining in this country the number of still births, which is often an important element in illegitimacy. In France, in 1857, the proportion of still births to the total births was 4·26 per cent.; amongst the illegitimate births it was 7·15 per cent. In Belgium the results are the same as in France. With regard to the criminal statistics of illegitimacy, it is usual to hear much of the recent increase of infanticide, but upon this subject our judicial statistics do not give any information. In the kindred crime of concealment of birth, however, there has been no undue increase. In the prosecution for disobeying bastardy orders there has been a decrease. Between the years before referred to, 1841 and 1859, the marriage rate in England has fluctuated slightly. In 1853, when illegitimacy was lowest, the marriage rate was highest; at the present time the marriage rate is 85 per 1000 of the population. Descending to an examination of the state of illegitimacy in the several counties of England, it was found that great discrepancies appeared, for which no clear explanation could be obtained. With regard to the character of the country, nothing can be inferred from its rural or non-rural character as regards illegitimacy. It was found, however, that as a general rule the thinly-inhabited counties showed the highest rate of illegitimacy, while the densely-packed counties were low in the scale. Education does not appear to have any effect, as in some of the most highly-educated counties illegitimacy is also high. The effects of a high marriage rate and early marriages on illegitimacy also showed remarkable fluctuations. The state of illegitimacy in towns showed much the same results as in their respective counties; but the low rate of illegitimacy in the densely-populated cities of Birmingham, Bristol, Dudley, Liverpool, Sheffield, and the metropolis, was remarkable. With regard to the proportions of sexes in illegitimate births, it is generally supposed that the excess of boys over girls in legitimate births is greater than in illegitimate. Mr. Lumley's inquiries, however, gave a different result. In England the proportion of boys to girls born in wedlock is as 104·5 to 100, while in illegitimate births the proportion is 105·7 to 100. In Scotland, Belgium, and Prussia similar proportions appear to prevail. Referring to the subject of pauper illegitimacy, Mr. Lumley remarked that while the percentage of illegitimacy in the general population is 6·5 per cent., in the pauper class it is only 1·6 per cent. Between the years 1835 and 1837 pauper illegitimacy decreased 37 per cent., and from 1849 to 1860 there was a further steady decline from 1·8 in the former years to 1·5 per cent. in the latter. In Scotland, illegitimacy is high and increasing. In the year 1856, the proportion of illegitimate births to the total births was 8·5 per cent., but in 1859 it had increased to 9 per cent.,

and in 1861 to 9·2 per cent. In Scotland, as in England, illegitimacy is high in the agricultural counties. With regard to education, the counties which were highest in the scale, also showed the largest amount of illegitimacy, and the ignorant the least. Mr. Lumley concluded by giving some statistics of illegitimacy in foreign countries. He found that in nearly all the countries he had examined illegitimacy was on the increase. The country which exhibited the lowest proportion of illegitimate births was Sardinia, the percentage being only 2·09, but this was in 1828-37. The highest rate was in Bavaria, where it was 22·6 per cent. In France the percentage was 7·8; in Spain, 5·6; in Austria, 8·9; and in Wurtemburg, 16·0. The facts as regards some continental cities were most remarkable. In Vienna and Lemburg (in Galicia) 51 per cent. of the births are illegitimate, whilst in London, Edinburgh, Florence, and Palermo, the percentages were 3·7, 7·6, 8·2, and 10·6, respectively. In Prague, the figures were 46·7 per cent.; in Stockholm, 40·7 per cent.; in Milan, 34 per cent.; and in Madrid, 21·8 per cent.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

March 19.—Professor A. C. Ramsay, President, in the chair.

Elliot Square, Esq., London; Ernest Shelley, Esq., Avington House, Winchester; Edward Romilly, Esq., 14, Stratton Street, Piccadilly; the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, Esq., M.P., 74, Eaton Square; George W. Stevenson, Esq., F.S.A., C.E., Halifax; George W. Hemans, Esq., C.E., 32, Leinster Gardens, Bayswater; and Harvey B. Holl, M.D., Merton, were elected Fellows.

The following communications were read:—1. "On the Sandstones, and their Associated Deposits, in the Valley of the Eden, the Cumberland Plain, and the South-east of Dumfriesshire," by Professor R. Harkness, F.R.S., F.G.S. Having defined the area occupied by these sandstones, breccias, clays, and flagstones, and referred to the published memoirs in which some notices of these deposits have been given by Buckland, Sedgwick, Phillips, and Binney, the author described, 1st, a section near Kirby-Stephen, across the vale of the Eden, where two breccias, separated by sandy clay-beds, underlie sandstones of considerable thickness; 2ndly, a section across Eden Vale from Great Ormside to Roman Fell, in which the breccias, associated with sandstones, form a mass two thousand feet thick, and are succeeded by thin sandstones, shales (with fossils), and thin limestone, altogether about one hundred and sixty feet, and next by sandstones seven hundred feet thick. This is the typical section; the fossiliferous shales are regarded by Professor Harkness as equivalent to the Permian marl-slate of Durham; they contain (at Hilton Beck) remains of *Conifera*, *Neuropteris*, *Sphenopteris*, *Weissites* (?), *Cauteropites selaginoides* (?), *Cupressites Ullmani* (?), *Voltzia Phillipsii* (?), *Cyathocrinus ramosus*, and *Terebratula elongata*. The breccias and sandstone beneath, previously recognized as Permian, are here referred to the Rothliegende; and the sandstones above are regarded as belonging to the Trias. Detailed descriptions of the sandstones and breccias in the country between Great Ormside and Penrith were then given, and the gypseous character of the clays at Long Martin and Townsend noticed. In the section across the vale of the Eden from the west of Penrith to Hartside Fell, the Permian breccias, sandstone, and flags are nearly five thousand feet thick, but the clay series is poorly represented. North of Penrith the flagstones bear foot-marks (at Brownrigg) like those of Corockle Muir. Mr. Harkness next described several sections of these Permian rocks in the western Westmoreland; and traced them to the other side of the Solway Forth, in Dumfriesshire (as described in former papers).

Some remarks on the relations of the Permian beds of Cumberland and Westmoreland with those of St. Bee's Head, near Whitehaven, and those of Annandale and Nithdale, concluded the paper.

2. "On the Date of the Last Elevation of the Central Valley of Scotland." By Archibald Geikie, F.R.S.E., F.G.S. After alluding to the position and nature of the raised beach which, at the height of from twenty to thirty feet above the present high-

water-mark, fringes the coast-line of Scotland, the author proceeded to describe the works of art which had been found in it. From their occurrence in beds of elevated silt and sand, containing layers of marine shells, it was evident that the change of level had been effected since the commencement of the human period. The character of the remains likewise proved that the elevation could not be assigned to so ancient a time as the Stone Period of the archaeologist. The canoes which had from time to time been exhumed from the upraised deposits of the Clyde at Glasgow clearly showed that at the time when at least the more finished of them were in use, the natives of this part of Scotland were acquainted with the use of bronze, if not of iron. The remains found in the corresponding beds of the Forth estuary likewise indicated that there had been an upheaval long after the earlier races had settled in the country, and that the movement was subsequent to the employment of iron. From the Firth of Tay similar evidence was adduced to indicate an upheaval possibly as recent as the time of the Roman occupation. The author then cited several antiquaries who from a consideration of the present position of the Roman remains in Scotland had inferred a considerable change in the aspect of the coast-line since the earlier centuries of the Christian era. He pointed out also several circumstances in relation to these Roman relics, which tended to show a change of level, and he referred to the discovery of Roman pottery in a point of the raised beach at Leith. The conclusion to which the evidence led him was that since the first century of our era the central parts of Scotland, from the Clyde to the Forth and the Tay, had risen to a height of from twenty to twenty-five feet above their present level.

NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

March 20.—W. S. W. Vaux, Esq., President, in the chair.

Thomas James Arnold, Esq., was duly elected a Member of the Society.

Mr. Vaux read a letter from J. R. Stuart, Esq., giving an account of a find of thirty-six English coins, and among them several fine specimens of Anlaf.

Mr. Evans read a communication from the Rev. H. C. Reichardt, of Cairo, "On a Gold Hexadrachm of Berenice."

Mr. Vaux read a paper by W. B. Dickinson, Esq., being Remarks on an Article by H. Fox-Talbot, Esq., which may be found in the seventh volume of the *Transactions of the Royal Society of Literature*, where he explains a Cuneitic inscription on the cylinder of Sargon, which is in the British Museum, and of the date B.C. 721, and says that he has found a mention of coined money. Mr. Dickinson gave an interesting account of the origin of coinage, criticizing Mr. Talbot's translation, and entirely dissenting from this latter's opinions.

Mr. Madden read a communication from A. W. Franke, Esq., giving an account of thirty-eight unpublished tokens of London of the seventeenth century. The series of London tokens mentioned in books, and existing in the British Museum, comprises together no less than 2893, of which the Museum wants only 471.

Mr. Vaux read a paper "On Two Copper Oriental Coins," the property of W. Freudenthal, Esq., their peculiarity consisting in the inscription being reversed.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

March 22.—The Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie in the chair.

William Edward Foster, Esq., M.P., and H. W. Freeland, Esq., M.P., were elected Resident Members, and J. H. Drummond Hay, Esq., Her Majesty's Resident Minister at Morocco, a Non-Resident Member of the Society.

A paper was read by J. C. Marshman, Esq., "On the Cultivation of Cotton in the District of Dharwar." It was shown that since the year 1846, when the Government system of purchasing the produce of exotic seed was given up, the cultivation of New Orleans cotton has greatly extended in that district, which supplies half the cotton raised in the Southern Mahratta country, and has been carried into the adjoining district of Bellary, as well as into

the adjacent territories of the Nizam—all this from the mere impulse of private gain, and without any official encouragement. A factory for the making of saw-gins by native workmen for clearing this cotton of its seed has also been established with native subscribed capital, from which more than eight hundred gins have been issued, and a system of subscription by the native farmers has been put in operation, by which the periodical inspection and repair of these machines is secured to them. The cotton of this district, when sent to Europe, has to be carried in carts and on bullocks' backs to Coorputa, and is thence conveyed by sea to Bombay for shipment; whereas Mr. Marshall is inclined to recommend its being carried to Sudasegur, forty miles nearer, and there shipped direct to England. To render this practicable, a road of eighty miles from Dharwar to Sudasegur is required.

A discussion followed the reading of this paper, in which T. Ogilby, Esq., C. Brice, Esq., General Briggs, J. Cheetham, Esq., P. B. Smollett, Esq., M.P., J. Crawford, Esq., Thomas Bazley, Esq., M.P., and several others joined. It seemed to be generally agreed that the chief great wants of India to enable its cultivators efficiently to supply the European markets with the raw material hitherto drawn from America, are—1st, roads; 2nd, cleaning-machines; and 3rd, direct communication between the buyers for shipment and the cultivator, to the exclusion of the greedy and fraudulent middlemen, who now enormously raise the price of cotton, and are guilty of practising all kinds of adulteration before the article reaches the hands of the merchant who exports it. With these aids, there is a fair hope that India could supply any required quantity of excellent cotton, enriching herself, and holding her own even against America.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

March 25.—Dr. J. E. Gray, V.-P., in the chair. Dr. Crisp read a paper "On the Form, Capacity, Situation, Presence, or Absence of the Gall-bladder, and on the Colour of the Bile in the Vertebrata." Sketches of the gall-bladders of three hundred and six species of the vertebrata, and the bile of five hundred species of animals, were exhibited. The author mentioned that in some animals which were said not to have a gall-bladder this viscus was present, and that the supposed law that a gall-bladder existed in hollow-horned ruminants and not in those with solid horns was not to be depended upon. This was shown by numerous illustrations from the author's dissections.

A letter was read from Dr. G. Bennett relating to the habits of the Kagu of New Caledonia (*Rhinocletus jubatus*), of which bird he had recently transmitted a living specimen to the Society.

A communication was read from Colonel Abbott relating to a case which he had observed in India of a female Python incubating her eggs. The incubation in this instance lasted more than three months.

Dr. Slater pointed out the characters of some new species of birds received in recent collections from Bogotá, belonging to the families *Turdidae*, *Vireonidae*, *Tanagridae*, and *Tyrannidae*.

A note was read by Mr. Blandford on the structure of the animal and on the habits of the mollusks of the genera *Paludomus*, *Aulopoma*, and *Nanina*, as observed by him in the species of these genera inhabiting Ceylon.

Dr. Gray communicated a paper by Miss Stavely on the form of the pecten in the Hymenopterous insects of the families *Andrenidae* and *Apidae*.

Communications were also read from Dr. Baird describing some new species of Entozoa, and from Dr. L. Pfeiffer on eight new species of Cyclostomaceæ and on a new *Helix* (*Nanina*) in the collection of Mr. Cuming.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

TUESDAY.—Royal Horticultural Society, 12.—Meeting of Fruit and Floral Committee.

Royal Institution, 3.—On the Physiology of the Senses, by John Marshall, Esq.

Ethnological Society, 8.—On the Antiquity of Man from the Evidence of Language, by John Crawford, Esq., President.

WEDNESDAY.—Geological Society, 8, at Burlington House.—On some Remains of *Chiton* from the Mountain-limestones of Yorkshire, by J. W. Kirby, Esq., communicated by T. Davidson, Esq., F.G.S.—On the Occurrence of Mesozoic and Permian Fauna in Australia, by the Rev. W. B. Clarke, F.G.S.—On some Reptilian Remains from the Coal-measures of the South Joggins, Nova Scotia, by Professor Owen, F.R.S., F.G.S.—On some Fossil Foot-prints from Hastings, by A. Taylor, Esq., F.G.S.
Society of Arts, 8.—On the Introduction and Use of Elastic Gums and Analogous Substances, by Mr. Frederick Walton.
THURSDAY.—Royal Institution, 3.—On Heat, by Professor Tyndall.
Linnean Society, 8.—On the three remarkable Sexual Forms of *Catocala tridentatum*, an Orchid in the possession of the Linnean Society, by Charles Darwin, Esq., M.A., F.R. and L.S.
FRIDAY.—Royal Horticultural Society, 2.—General Meeting.
Royal United Service Institution, 3 and 8.
Royal Institution, 8.—On the Post Office, by Commissioner M. D. Hill.
SATURDAY.—Royal Institution, 3.—On Spectrum Analysis, by Professor H. E. Roscoe, F.R.S.

FINE ARTS.

SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

This Society opened its Annual Exhibition in Suffolk Street on Saturday last with a very numerous assemblage of paintings in oil and water-colours—a collection which, on the whole, will prove far more to interest the exhibitors and their friends than the public at large. We trust that this International Exhibition season of 1862 will not be regarded as a standard year, at least for the British artists. If it is taken as such, they must unquestionably be content to stand at a very low level, as representing the art-producing power of the country. It is not too much to say that out of the nine hundred and seventy-six works here assembled, not one hundred are distinguishable by any quality which raises them above the dead level of mediocrity; whilst to this collection seem by general consent to be relegated all the oddities of the year, the freaks of invention, the dislocated figures, the hot landscapes, the dim portraits, and the unmeaning bits of action and sentiment. The chronic complaint under which the members of the Society have long suffered is that of self-repetition; and this reproach has now been brought against so often and so loudly, that some effect seems to have been produced at last.

The exhibition is certainly not so much saturated by uniformity and swamped by self-multiplication as we have observed.

Still, however, Mr. Clint sends eleven pictures; Mr. Zeitzer, ten; Mr. Cobbett, nine; Messrs. Boddington, Bromley, Shayer, Tennant, and Wilson, eight each;

and Messrs. Cole, Hennell, Pyne, Wood, and Woollmer, seven each; another artist, not of the Society, Mr. T. Whittle, sends eight pictures. Now it is obvious that, when a hundred and thirteen works are contributed by fourteen artists, the iteration is apt to become painful, and the effect on the eye is not so inspiring as to ensure a very favourable appreciation of the rest. Few things diminish the reputation of an artist so much as the detection of mannerism, and the discovery of the means whereby his particular effects are produced. Repetition is almost sure to lead to this: what seemed at first a happy invention becomes in the end a mechanical trick; and a pleasing surprise is replaced by satiety or disgust.

On a general view of the collection, there are two or three works of such dimensions and pretension as to force themselves on the spectator's attention, whether agreeably or not. The latter, we regret to say, is the result of the first view of Mr. Salter's historical painting, *King Charles II. and Catherine of Braganza* (133). Nothing can be more unfortunate than this work (which nevertheless has cost some time and pains), whether in subject, conception, drawing, or painting. The incident is unworthy of such elaborate treatment; the figures are wooden and over-dressed; the attitudes and expressions awkward and vulgar; and the painting at the same time poor and flashy. It is extremely to be regretted that such a work should occupy such a position. Another large painting, called *Gaming and its Results* (226), is by Mr. H. J. Fiddick. A number of stylishly-dressed figures are sitting at tables in a marble-paved hall, playing at roulette; in the foreground one of the gentlemen, having lost, we may

presume, a fortune, breaks away in a passion from the rest of the company, upsetting as he goes a chair and the wine which a footman is serving. His opponent is raking up his gains; whilst two smiling ladies, also players, but seemingly not at all excited by the fluctuations of the game, look on composedly. Other groups are engaged in play or are making love. On the left a young man offers a lady a purse full of gold. In the distance, out of doors, a man is seen blowing out his brains. These last two incidents are very gross and unimaginative. Indeed, we miss many of the *traits* of truth and probability in this scene. The chances are, that a gentleman would have shown his pride or his good breeding by retiring calmly from the field of disaster; and the ladies, however artificial in manners, would surely not pass wholly unruffled in looks and dress through a moment of such excitement. There is more of the upholstery of the drama about this painting than of its life and spirit. Still it must be regarded as an ambitious and elaborate work.

In the composition called *Cinderella Flying from the Ball, Changing as she Runs* (550), by Mr. H. Andrews (not a member of the Society), the artist has had to contend with the inherent difficulties of the subject. When laurel leaves sprout from the fingers of Daphne, and her lower limbs are rooted in the ground and sheathed in bark, we know what the artist means to convey; but how is it possible to represent a young lady "changing as she runs?" The story, consequently, remains untold. Another large painting, *The Relief of Lucknow* (525), by G. Foggo, does not sin so grievously against taste as the historical picture first mentioned. It is, however, dull in colour and not very clear in incident; and the accessories in the foreground, such as the cannon-ball, carpet, target, &c., show that the designer has made no effort to rise above the usual stock properties of a battle on canvas. It might have been remembered also that exact renderings of the British residence at Lucknow exist in this country in the shape of photographs. A study of these facsimiles would have given a truth and *verve* to the scene which are entirely lost in a cluster of fanciful gates and towers, looking as if they had been copied from a panorama. These, however, are blemishes only; and there is much besides in the work which shows study and feeling.

Mr. Baxter's works in this collection always attract favourable notice, from his skill in dealing with certain feminine charms of figure. Mr. Baxter's inspiration, however, comes entirely *ab extra*. *The Lady with a Quotation from Shakespeare* (54) and *The Colleen Bawn* (357) do not spring from ideas suggested either by poet or playwright; but are simply two pretty simpering faces of a remarkable family likeness, with bosoms of dazzling creaminess and whiteness. Given a pretty made up figure of this sort, it is easy to christen it with the name of some heroine, ancient or modern, though it may bear in no one point any distinctive resemblance to the character assumed. In the art of mere flesh-painting, so far as that goes, Mr. Baxter well maintains his established position.

Two scenes of school life appear in contrast, *Oughts and Crosses* (34), by Mr. Bromley, and *A Welsh School* (193), by Mr. Cobbett. In the former the incident of the master surprising the children at play, not unknown to art, is pleasantly reproduced with some humour and success. Mr. Cobbett has bestowed great pains on some of the figures of the children, which stand out very clearly against the floor and walls of the cottage; and the face of the teacher shows thoughtful feeling. The peculiar mouldy and crumbling appearance of the cottage interior is, however, rather uncomfortable than picturesque. Among the remaining works of Mr. Cobbett, *A Girl Knitting* (389), and *The Fortune Teller* (565), are the most successful.

The President, Mr. Hurlstone, contributes four pictures, a Spanish Gipsy of course, but this time *The Queen of the Spanish Gipsies* (104); and the *Portraits* (347) and (375), which call for no especial remark. There is also another, *Portraits of a Gentleman and Daughter* (225), which cannot add to the artist's reputation in taste or skill, and had better not have been exhibited.

Mr. Woolmer's pictures are spangled and fanciful as ever; wanting in accuracy of drawing and truth

of observation, but making up to some extent by showing what the artists of our day are apt to forget, namely, how powerfully a little *bizarre* colouring and artfully-disposed light and shade can rouse the imagination and charm the fancy. There is a great deal to be learnt incidentally from Mr. Woolmer, though no one would think of holding him up as a model. *The Old Hall Garden* (68) is surely no other than our old friend Haddon, over again; and has not *The Avenue* (586) been exhibited already? *The Ladies' Ford* (182) and *The Maiden's Dream* (663) are amongst the most characteristic of the remaining works by this artist.

Of Mr. Boddington's landscapes, the *Mountain Torrent near Dolgely* (141) is one of the freshest and most natural; the water in front being nevertheless rather thin and indistinct. We notice also a *Lane near Capel Curig* (309), and *Morning, Tintern Abbey* (384), the scene which artists are never tired of studying.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

Second Concert, Monday, March 24, 1862.

PART I.

Sinfonia, Die Wölfe der Töne (The Power of Sound)		
Recit. { "Crudele! Ah no" } (Don Aria, "Non mi dir" } Giovanni)	Mozart.	Spohr.
Caprice in E, Pianoforte		W.S. Bennett
Air, "Tis thy words that destroy" } Air, "Our hearts in childhood's morn" } (Iphigenia in Tauris)	Gluck.	
Overture (Athalaie)		Mendelssohn.

PART II

	PART II.	
Sinfonia in F, No. 8		Beethoven.
Duet, "Tornami a dir che m'ami" (Don Pasquale)		Donizetti.
Prelude and Fugue alla Tarantella		J. S. Bach.
Overture (Oberon)		Weber.

Conductor—Professor Sterndale Bennett, Mus.D.

The announcement of a performance of Spohr's grand musical poem, "The Consecration of Music," or, as it is generally, but incorrectly, designated, "The Power of Sound," could not fail to attract an unusually large audience to the Hanover Square Rooms on Monday last. Owing to the extreme difficulty of this Symphony (take, for instance, that very perplexing passage in the Second Movement, where the various *tempi* $\frac{3}{4}$ and $\frac{2}{4}$ are so ingeniously combined), it figures but sparingly in the programme of the season. It was performed once last year, by Dr. Wylde's band, and in the previous year, if we remember right, by the Musical Society of London; but on neither occasion was the execution equal to that of the Philharmonic orchestra, under Professor Bennett's superintendence. The occasional predominance of the wind instruments, that obvious and facile objection in the mouth of every hypercritical caviller, must be laid to the fault of the composer himself, who seems in his Third Movement to have summoned all his resources for the adequate portrayal of the joyous and exultant sounds of battle and of victory. An attentive perusal of Carl Pfeiffer's poem, of which Spohr's work is a musical illustration throughout, will well repay the amateur; not so much on account of the literary merits of the poem, but simply as a key to the several movements into which the Symphony is divided, comprising the First Silence of Nature, the Uproar of the Elements, the Cradle Song, the Dance, the Serenade, the March to Battle, Return of the Conquerors, Thanksgiving, Funeral Dirge, Consolation in Grief. The chorale in B flat, in the Third Movement, stands a very poor comparison with that of Mendelssohn in the noble Overture to "Athalia," which, as well as the fairy overture by Weber, at the conclusion of the second part, was executed with a precision and vigour not to be surpassed.

The vocal part of the programme was unusually good, both as regards the selection of the pieces and their execution by Mlle. Parepa and Mr. Tennant—the lovely melody from the "Don Giovanni," which Mlle. Tietjens was the first to revive of late years, and the pathetic air from the "Iphigenia in Tauris," for the resuscitation of which we are indebted to the classic taste of Mr. Charles Halle:

both met with unbounded applause. Without for one moment pretending to compare Mr. Tennant's voice with that of his brother-in-law, Mr. Sims Reeves, as far as quality and volume are concerned; we yet do not hesitate to affirm that there are occasions on which we derive equal, if not greater pleasure, from the refined taste and feeling execution of the former. Professor Bennett's elegant Caprice, and the old Leipsic Cantor's sturdy Fugue alla Tarantella were played by Miss Goddard with her customary carefulness and precision. If we may be allowed to judge of the prospects of this Society from the two concerts already given this season, we cannot but augur most favourably for it, both as regards its own pecuniary success, and its influence on the art in general.

KLINDWORTH'S CHAMBER CONCERTS.—Whenever a real musician, such as Mr. Klindworth undoubtedly is, has the courage to open up new and untrodden paths in musical art, forsaking that wearisome repetition of a few acknowledged master-pieces, and paying little or no heed to the false and vicious prejudices of the day, he must content himself with the willing admiration and gratitude of the "fit audience, though few," rather than the thoughtless plaudits of the many. A programme of a performance similar to that given on Tuesday last at the second of these concerts, will always be a treat to the real lover of music, even though his sympathies may not be wholly identical with those of the artist to whom he is indebted for the opportunity afforded him of exercising his judgment on a new composition.

PROGRAMME

Quintett in F (Op. 55), pianoforte, flute, clarinet, horn, bassoon	Rubinstein Sphor.
Song, "Love thee! ah, why"	
Quartett in D (No. 10), two violins, viola, and violoncello	Mozart. Beethoven.
Sonata in C (Op. 102), piano and violoncello	Beethoven.
Song, "Knowest thou the land"	
Song, "May Dew"	S. Bennett.
Trio in B flat (Op. 99), piano, violin, and violoncello	Schubert.

Rubinstein, the great Prussian composer, born at Moldavia in the year 1829, is a writer of undoubtedly originality and great fertility, there being scarcely any form of musical composition which he has not attempted with more or less success—chamber-music, symphonies, oratorio, and opera; his latest work, a grand opera in four acts, "Die Kinder der Heide," having been very favourably received at Vienna not long since. The idea of employing the piano with four wind instruments, though unusual, is not quite novel—Mozart having had recourse to the same combination in his celebrated quintett in E flat, composed in the year 1784 (see Holmes's *Life of Mozart*, p. 240). In Rubinstein's quintett we find fragments of wild and original phrases, rather than any sustained musical idea; the third movement, "Andante con moto," being the most pleasing of the four; but there is not in it the same exuberance of melody which we find in Schubert's trio, played later in the evening, though at the same time we must confess that the excessive length of the latter greatly militates against its permanent popularity. Beethoven's two duets for piano and violoncello (the first of which was included in the above programme) are seldom given, on account of their extreme abstruseness, and the elaborate combinations employed. At such a concert however as this, works of this class must be considered as most appropriate, the audience consisting almost wholly of professors and highly-educated amateurs. Miss Susanna Cole was the vocalist.

Bascom Col as the vocalist.

Adrop of these very interesting concerts, we should like very much to know if it be the intention of Messrs. Klindworth and Blagrove to resume their Musical Art Union Concerts this year? We have fairly entered upon the commencement of our musical season, but have as yet received no intimation of them.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA.—The performances of the English Operatic Company came to a termination on Saturday evening last, after a season which, commencing rather inauspiciously, ultimately turned out tolerably successful. During the five months of their lesseeship, Miss Pyne and Mr. Harrison have

produced no less than four operas by English composers, namely, "Ruy Blas" by Howard Glover; "The Puritan's Daughter," by Balfé; "The Lily of Killarney," by Benedict; and "Court and Cottage," by Mr. Frederic Clay. There seems a probability of Drury Lane Theatre being used for English Opera during the Exhibition season; if this be so, we sincerely hope that the spirited endeavours of the managers to establish English Opera on a sure and firm foundation may meet with the support and encouragement to which they are so fully entitled. Saturday being chosen as her benefit night by Miss Louisa Pyne, "Dinorah" was selected as the Opera on this occasion, followed by Mr. Clay's Operetta. The house was full throughout, and the audience testified their hearty approbation of Miss Louisa Pyne's performance in every possible manner, bouquets and various other presents being showered down upon her at the conclusion of each act. After the Operetta, the National Anthem was sung by the whole company, Mr. Harrison and Miss Pyne taking the solo parts.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—In Mr. Gye's prospectus for the season, we have twelve operas announced; three of which, "Dinorah," "Les Huguenots," and "Robert le Diable" (this last being revived in England after an interval of nine years), are by Meyerbeer; Donizetti figures for four, "L' Elisir d'Amore," "Don Pasquale," "La Figlia del Reggimento," and "Don Sébastien;" the last being quite new to us. Mozart, Gluck, Rossini, Verdi, and Auber, are represented by "Don Giovanni," "Orfeo," "Guillaume Tell," "Un Ballo in Maschera," and "Fra Diavolo," respectively. The temporary absence of "Il Trovatore" during the present season will be a positive relief, after having had it so repeatedly at every Operatic House, English and Italian, since its first introduction here. The artistes engaged comprise nearly all those of last season, excepting Madame Grisi, and Signor and Madame Tiberini. Amongst the additional artists we find Mlle. Marie Battu (her first appearance in England), and Signori Capponi and Nanni. Mlle. Patti will appear in "Don Giovanni" as *Zerlina*; in "La Figlia del Reggimento," "L'Elisir d'Amore," and in "Dinorah." Mlle. Marie Battu, a charming singer and actress from the Italian Opera, Paris, will make her *début* as *Norina* in "Don Pasquale." On the whole, we think we may look forward to a very interesting and satisfactory season this year.

MUSICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—A meeting of the fellows of this society was held at the Marylebone Institution, on Wednesday evening last, when a lecture on Musical Pitch was delivered by Mr. Pole, Mus. Bac., Oxon. Mr. Pole is well known to musicians as a highly accomplished amateur, having been for some time a pupil of Dr. Gauntlett. He is also the author of a careful, but not otherwise remarkable article on the musical season of last year, which appeared in *Macmillan's Magazine*, some months since. The meeting was not very well attended, owing to the bad weather.

On the same evening a concert, vocal and instrumental, was given at the Music Room, in Newman Street, under the superintendence of Dr. Perfitt. Some instrumental pieces were played by a very fair red band, consisting almost wholly of amateurs. The overture to "William Tell" and two or three more pieces were *encored*. Amongst the vocalists were Mr. Wallworth and Miss E. Lyon. The performance of the last-named lady deserves especial commendation for taste and careful execution.

ADELPHI.—Probably an irreparable loss was inflicted on the playgoing public by the death of poor Wright. There is not now an actor on the stage who, by a single twinkle of the eye, or one twitch of the lip, can tickle a whole houseful into laughter. The ring of merriment in his own haunt is echoed by brighter walls, the dingy boards he used to tread are gone, but the memory of a roguish smile still lingers about the site of the old Adelphi, and in the midst of our present enjoyment makes us think for a moment on the days that are gone. But "Le Roi est mort—vive le Roi!" and Mr. J. L. Toole, who now occupies the place, is deservedly acquiring the

popularity of the deceased monarch of Adelphi fun. With more versatility and less apparent self-consciousness, he has an equal power of carrying a laughing audience through the lightest farce. Of this character is the latest novelty called "A Private Inquiry," produced last Monday, in which Mr. Toole fully sustains his reputation in the part of a fidgety old attorney, whose professional appetite for getting up evidence, being whetted by Divorce Court disclosures, leads him to persecute his son-in-law with unfounded charges of conjugal infidelity.

S. T. JAMES'S.—"Under the Rose," played here for the first time on Monday, was advertised as a "comedy," but is called in the playbills a "comic scene." We hardly know which to call it. The plot might well serve for one of those elegant little duologues which Mr. Charles Dance used to write, and to which the former title would properly apply; but the treatment of it trenches so much on the domain of farce that the latter name perhaps describes it the best. *Mrs. Marabout Magne* (Miss Kate Terry), a coquettish widow, in a fit of displeasure at the contents of a note from one of her admirers, pitches out of window, flowerpot and all, the rose in which the note has been conveyed to her. The pot drops on the hat of *Mr. Justinian Sheepshanks* (Mr. Ashley), and brings up that learned advocate in a towering rage. His anger is however quickly subdued by the charms of the young widow, to whom, faithless to an existing love, he flops down on his knees and makes an offer. The lady, having led him on so far, thereupon quietly rings the bell and orders him a glass of iced water. But the wily barrister is not to be so beaten. Taking advantage of the real admiration which the widow evinces for him on the discovery that through his talents an action-at-law had been decided in her favour, he inveigles her into a declaration of love, and then, turning the tables, prescribes a similar remedy for her complaint. The parties having thus made quits, and their flirting propensities having received a lesson, the curtain suddenly drops—a little to the surprise of the audience at discovering a neat little plot in what they had imagined to be rather a flimsy farce. The author is Mr. Roberts.

Mr. Fechter, at the Princess's Theatre, has been again performing *Ruy Blas*, in which character he made his first appearance in London in October, 1860. It is stated that he is shortly to appear in a play of his own writing, called "The Golden Dagger."

Mr. and Mrs. German Reed and Mr. John Parry withdrew their entertainment of "Our Card Basket" on the 31st, and are about to substitute a new piece called "The Family Legend, or Heads and Tails," with improved scenic effects.

Mrs. Macready, an American actress, is giving recitations at Willis's Rooms. A deep-toned, powerful voice, expressive features, a graceful carriage, and a comprehensive memory, qualify her to shine in a species of entertainment which, in its studied elocution, wants something of the charm of real acting, as well as that of a natural style of reading. Next Wednesday she recites "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

On Saturday last a testimonial of plate was presented to Mr. Charles Kean. The inscription upon the principal object—a handsome vase—runs as follows:—"Presented to Charles John Kean, Esq., F.S.A., by many of his fellow-Scotians together with numerous friends and admirers among the public, as a tribute to the genius of a great actor, and in recognition of his unremitting efforts to improve the tone and elevate the character of the British stage." The remaining pieces consist of two candelabra, four dessert-stands, and two groups of figures. The whole are executed in oxidized silver, the candelabra being relieved by gilding. Portraits of Shakespere, Mr. and Mrs. C. Kean, and Miss Chapman, are introduced, as well as many scenes from the works of our great dramatist.

The manufacture is by Messrs. Hunt and Roskell, the works being designed and modelled, and the portraits chased, by Mr. H. H. Armstead. The ceremony took place at St. James's Hall, Mr. Gladstone pronouncing a complimentary address in the absence of the Duke of Newcastle. On the same evening Mr. and Mrs. Kean played at Drury Lane, for Mr. E. T. Smith's benefit, in Mrs. Centlivre's comedy of "The Wonder," Mrs. Kean sustaining the part of *Violante*, in which she distinguished herself many years ago on the same boards, when Miss Ellen Tree.

finds the active and passive adjectives." This so-called confounding is not very culpable in the case of such words as "estimable." Latin adjectives in *bilis* are generally interchangeable with the past participle of their cognate verb. "Wonder" requires no elucidation. Not only is *Miranda* addressed as a "wonder" in *The Tempest*, act i. sc. 2, but little Helen, in *All's Well that Ends Well*, act ii. sc. 1, is even styled an "admiration."

W. D.

OMNIANA.

Note on a Passage in "Twelfth Night."—Sir,—Allow me to add a further suggestion to those which I have lately offered in regard to certain doubtful points in the text of Shakespere.

I have no hesitation in proposing, with much confidence, an emendation of a disputed passage in *Twelfth Night*; nor am I without expectation that my conjecture will be considered satisfactory. The passage I refer to is wholly unintelligible as it stands; but I hope to show that it may be restored to plain sense and clear meaning, by supplying a very slight typographical defect.

In the dialogue between Sebastian and Antonio (act ii. sc. 1), Sebastian thus speaks of his twin sister Viola, whom he supposes to have been drowned at sea:—

"A lady, sir, though it was said she much resembled me, was yet of many accounted beautiful: but though I could not, with such estimable wonder, overfar believe that, yet thus far I will boldly publish her—she bore a mind that envy could not but call fair."

No interpretation has hitherto been offered of the words I have italicized. Dr. Warburton was so satisfied that they had been interpolated, that he struck them out altogether. The Rev. A. Dyce, in his note ad. l., says:—"I believe the folio gives the passage as the author wrote it;" but Mr. Dyce does not inform us what he considers the author meant by it. As in other cases of perplexity, no commentator has attempted to explain or correct them, "sua fide atque pericula." Mr. Collier and Mr. Singer possessed copies of the second folio, with manuscript alterations, to which, with more or less confidence, they respectively incline. Mr. Collier's corrector has

attempted to explain or correct them, "sua fide atque pericula."

"But though I could not with self-estimation wonder so far to believe that," &c.;

while in Mr. Singer's folio it is altered to—

"But though I could not, with such estimators wonder overfar to believe that," &c.

I offer no opinion on the merits of these emendations. It may be questioned whether they are not examples of "obscura diligentia." To say the least, they deal pretty freely with the text.

Now, I would submit that, if Sebastian's speech be read carefully, it will require no long pondering to perceive that he is modestly deprecating any comparison of himself with such a beautiful girl as his sister. If this be the purport of the words—and there can hardly be a doubt about it—the simple insertion of the indefinite article will meet all the necessities of the case. Read as follows, and all difficulty vanishes:—

"A lady, sir, though it was said she much resembled me, was yet of many accounted beautiful: but though I could not, with such an estimable wonder [i.e. when compared with such an admirable woman], overfar believe that, yet thus far I will boldly publish her—she bore a mind that envy could not but call fair."

Perhaps it is the preposition "with," as here employed, together with the loss of the article, that has caused so much confusion. *Johnson's Dictionary*, by Todd, tells us that among the multifarious uses of this little word-of-all-work, it is met with in the sense of "in competition with," and as "noting comparison." Few will require to be reminded of this, and such is its obvious meaning in this place. "Estimable" may be taken either as *esteemed* or as *deserving esteem*; see *Johnson's* note on the word in *Malone's Shakespere*, by *Boswell* (vol. xi. p. 379), where he observes that "Shakespere often con-

tinues the active and passive adjectives." This so-called confounding is not very culpable in the case of such words as "estimable." Latin adjectives in *bilis* are generally interchangeable with the past participle of their cognate verb. "Wonder" requires no elucidation. Not only is *Miranda* addressed as a "wonder" in *The Tempest*, act i. sc. 2, but little Helen, in *All's Well that Ends Well*, act ii. sc. 1, is even styled an "admiration."

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Table Forks...	1 10 0	1 18 0	2 8 0	3 0 0
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Table Spoons.	1 10 0	1 18 0	2 8 0	3 0 0
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